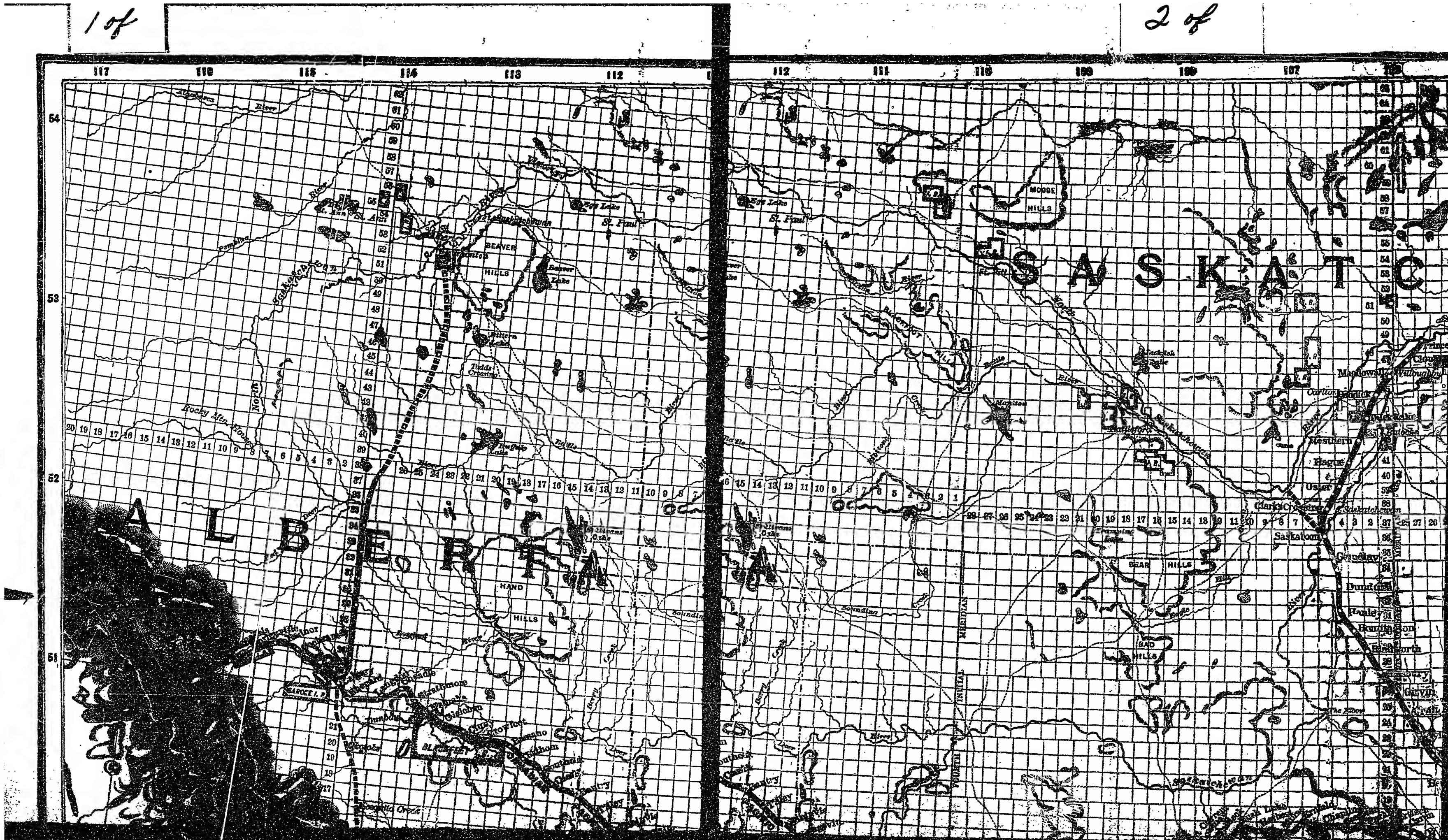


CANADIAN PACIFIC
RAILWAY COMPANY

"THE CANADIAN NORTH
WEST TERRITORIES"

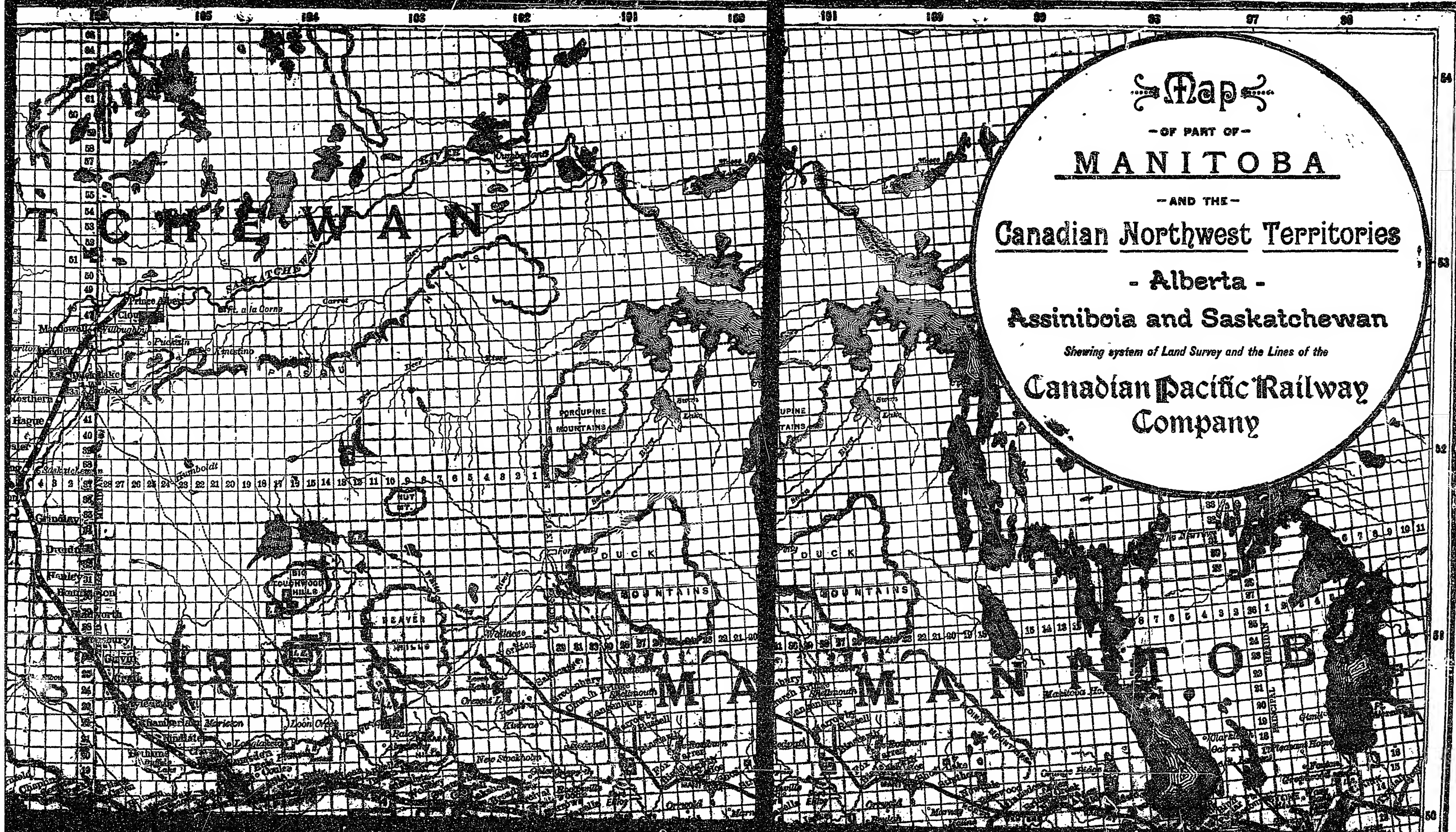
FC 4158
C3
1891
c.2





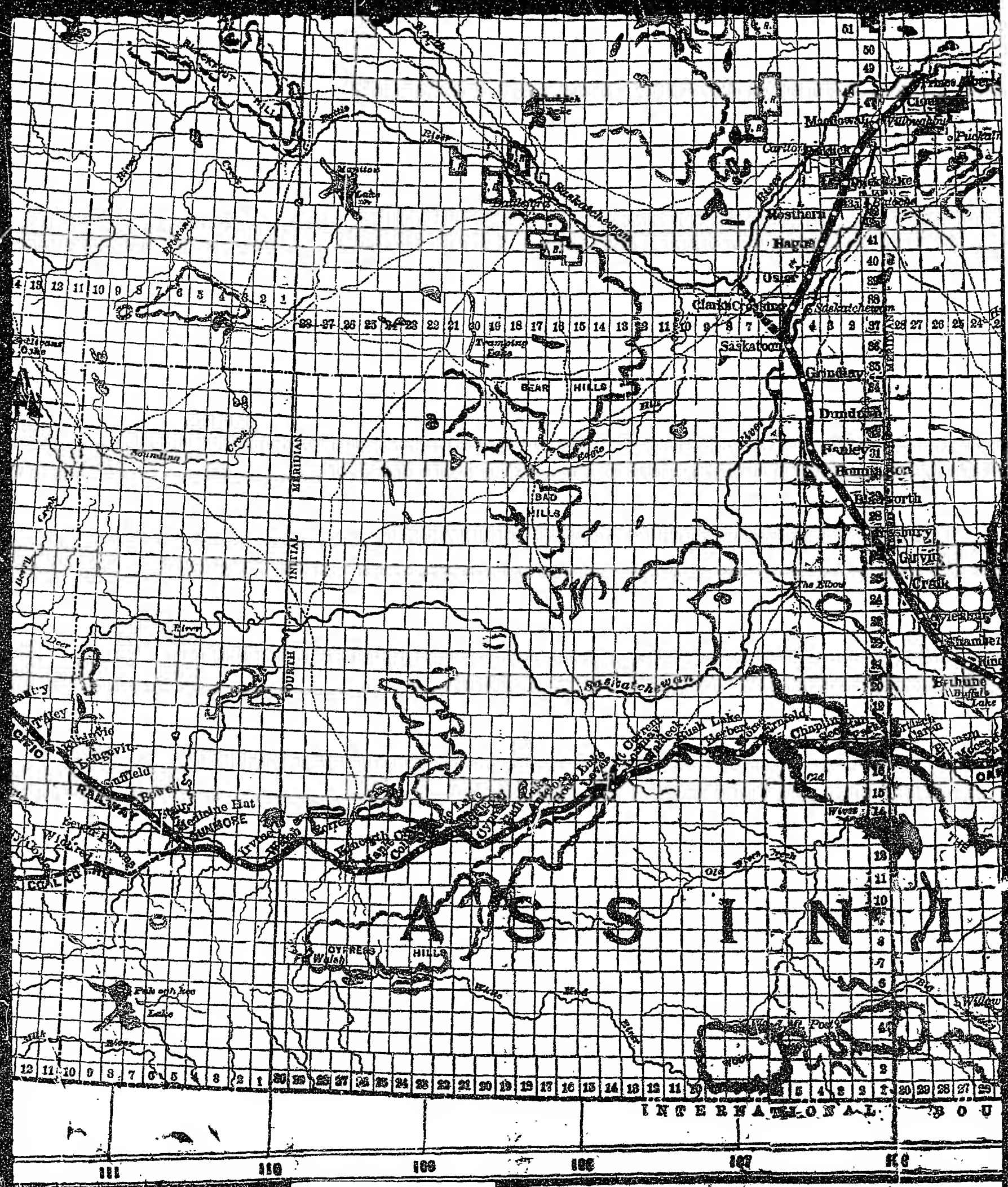
3 of

4 of

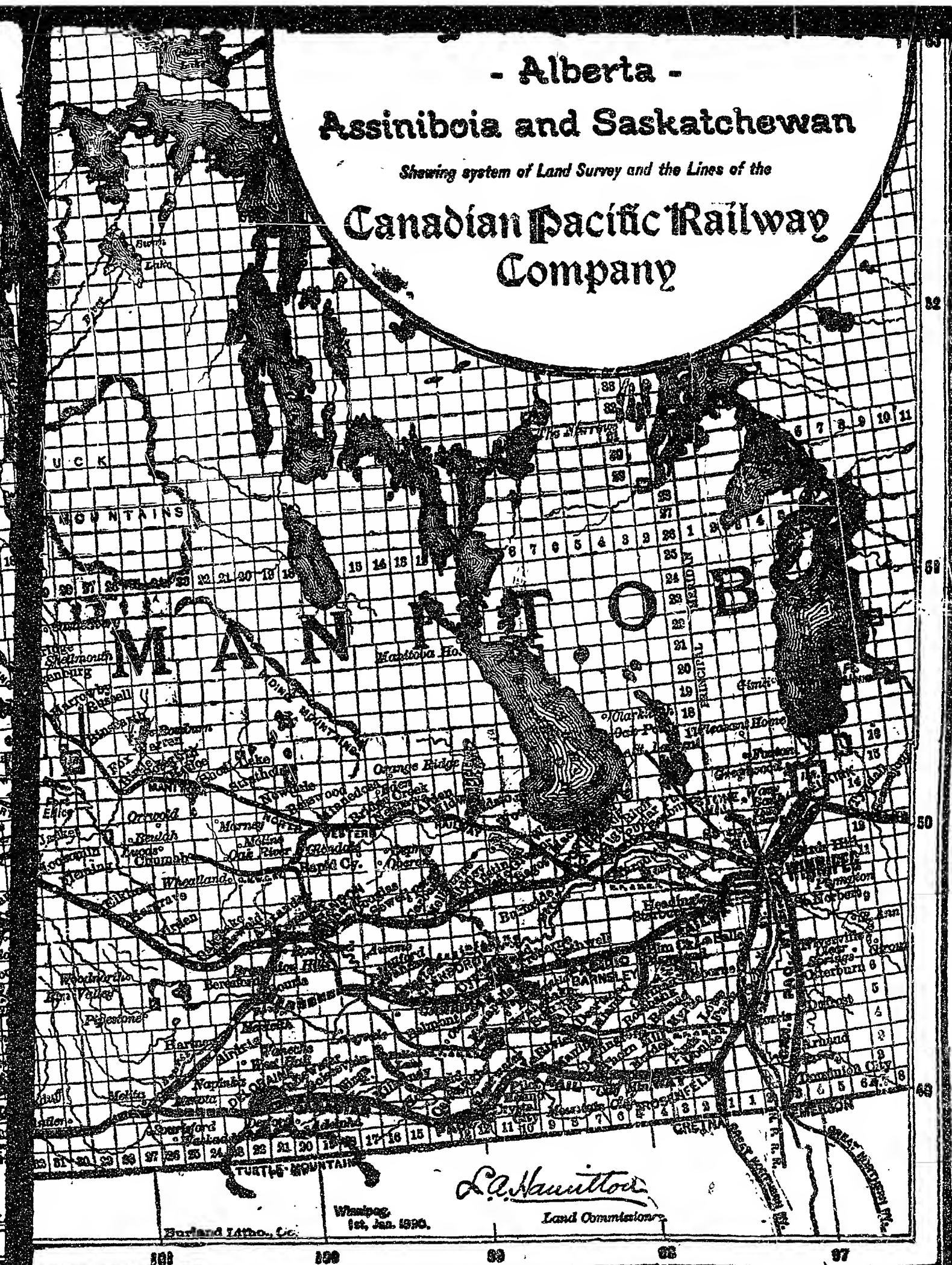




5 of



6 of



- Alberta -
Assiniboia and Saskatchewan
Showing system of Land Survey and the Lines of the
Canadian Pacific Railway
Company

L.A. Huntton
 Land Commissioner

7

THE
Canadian
North-West

DAIRY FARMING

RANCHING

MINING

FC4158

C3

1891

c.2

Dairy Farming, Ranching and Mining.

ASSINIBOIA AND ALBERTA.

This pamphlet has been compiled with the view of drawing attention to the natural advantages that these districts offer for raising at a low cost cattle, horses and sheep, and for producing butter and cheese. The subject of grain raising is not dwelt on to any extent, inasmuch as that question is fully discussed in a companion pamphlet, "The Northwest Farmer," a copy of which can be obtained at any office of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. It must not be inferred from this that the growing of grain does not form part of the agricultural features of these districts, but the grain-producing qualities are so overshadowed by those appertaining to the branches of farming with which this pamphlet treats, that it was thought advisable to give the latter special prominence. The subject matter deals largely with Alberta; but, to a great extent, what is said of that district is applicable to the western part of Assiniboia, the Cypress Hills in a measure giving to the latter the ranching grounds that the Foot Hills of the Rocky Mountains afford to Alberta. The suggestions given to the intending immigrant as to who should come; when to come; what to bring; the farming methods that are likely to give the best results, can be read as applying to *both* districts.

The reader having made up his mind to go into one or other of these branches of farming, naturally asks the question:

WHERE SHOULD I TAKE MY TICKET TO?

If, after what you have read, you incline to Western Assiniboia, the best place to take your ticket to is Maple Creek or Medicine Hat. As these are the chief places of resort for the cattle men, the settler on arrival, can obtain much valuable information from them. There are several good stores in these towns where supplies of all kinds that the settler will need can be obtained. If he prefers Southern Alberta, he should take his ticket to Lethbridge, where the Government land office for the district is located, Or, if Central or Northern Alberta is his choice look to Calgary. From

this point a railway is being constructed north, through the Red Deer and Battle River country to Edmonton. Thus, Calgary is the point from which settlers should start for these districts and the Great Saskatchewan Valley.

HOW CAN I OBTAIN A RANCHE ?

If it is the intention to embark in the business of raising cattle, horses or sheep on a large scale, an extent of ground equal to the rancher's requirements can be obtained under lease from the Dominion Government on the following easy terms :

Settlers can obtain leases of public lands not exceeding four sections (2,650 acres) in the vicinity of the settler's residence. The lease shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-one years. The lessee shall pay an annual rental of two cents an acre. The lessee shall within three years place one head of cattle for every twenty acres of land covered by his lease ; at least one-third of the number of cattle stipulated for shall be placed on the range within each of the three years from the date of the order-in-council granting the lease. Whether he be a lessee or not, no person shall be allowed to place sheep upon lands in Manitoba and the Northwest without permission from the Minister of the Interior. Leases of grazing lands to other than settlers, or in larger quantities than that specified above, are granted only after public competition. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa.

Maps showing the lands now under lease can be seen at the Land Commissioner's Office in Winnipeg.

Maps can be secured there free of cost showing the lands open for sale in the Ranching Districts, and their prices.

THE COST OF STARTING A RANCHE.

For the benefit of intending settlers an account of the cost of starting a ranche is herewith given :—Take as an example a person bringing in a band of 500 head of good grade two-year old heifers, at say \$25 (£5) per head ; also 20 bulls at \$50 (£10). In the first place, he must locate a suitable site for buildings, etc., in the vicinity of good water ; a running stream is of course preferable. Then comes the erection of his buildings—a log house which will cost about \$150 (£30) ; a horse stable to accommodate eight horses, \$50 (£10) ; a shed 100x20 feet for weak cows and calves during winter, say \$75 (£15), and a pole corral for branding calves,

etc., about \$15 (£3). These buildings will be sufficient for the first year, and can be added to as his band increases. Next comes the purchasing of say fifteen saddle horses at about \$60 (£12) per head; one team of work horses at \$250 (£50); mower and rake \$125 (£25), and a waggon and harness \$125 (£25). This will be the principal outlay; in addition there are the smaller tools, furniture, provisions, etc.

A practical man gives the following figures in regard to the cost of raising stock and the average profits.

I would estimate the cost of raising a steer to marketable age, or say four years old, as follows, viz.:—Take one hundred cows with an increase of at least seventy-five per cent., and estimating the cost of keep for each cow for

One year to be \$3.....	\$300 00
And keep of each calf for 1st year \$5.....	875 00
“ “ 2nd “ 3.....	225 00
“ “ 3rd “ 3.....	225 00
“ “ 4th “ 3.....	225 00

Total cost of 75 steers at 4 years old....\$1,350 00

Or \$18 per head which will readily sell at \$40 per head, leaving a profit of \$22 each, I consider the above a fair estimate of the cost. As I am now feeding my stock at less than three cents a head per day, on feed bought in the stack and reckoning drawing one and one-half miles at one dollar per load.

Yours respectfully,

J. E. FENNACY.

DAVISBURG, ALTA, 22nd January, 1890.

Considering a man established with his stock in the country, buildings erected, stock branded and turned loose on the range and two men hired, who will want about \$25 per month for the year we will now take up the life of a cow-man from this time. His cattle will want but little attention until the fall, so his first work is to provide for them in case of a hard winter in the way of hay which can be cut on the prairie. He should provide himself with say 100 tons which should be stacked at his buildings if possible. After haying he will be employed in fixing up generally and his men in riding the range and keeping an eye on the cattle until the fall roundup which takes place the latter part of September. This, with the spring roundup (which he will attend to in due time) is accomplished in the following manner :

THE ROUNDUP.

A meeting of the stockmen of the district having been held at which the date for commencement has been fixed, a captain chosen and the number of representatives each owner is to send (arrived at proportion-



A BIT OF GRAZING LAND.

stely to the number of cattle he owns) all hands with their saddle horses, bedding, etc., gathered at a designated point to commence their work. The roundup outfit here usually consists of about 30 men, divided as follows: 1 cook, 1 horse herder for the day and 1 for the night; the balance riders. Each rider has his own string of horses from five upwards. Two four horse teams, one to haul the mess wagon and one the bedding tents, branding irons, etc., comprise the outfit.

The daily routine is much as follows: We are awakened in the early morning by the melodious voice of the cook shouting "Grub pile" at the top of his voice, and woe betide the lazy fellow who does not immediately turn out and proceed to eat our breakfast. Meanwhile the herder has brought in the band of horses and saddle horses for the morning's ride are caught and saddled. A little amusement is sometimes caused by a horse not thoroughly broken undertaking to buck his rider off, but generally without success.

The captain now gives the men their orders as to which way they shall ride, and gather in all stock they find, to meet at some designated point, usually within ten miles, where there is in most cases a branding corral. Arriving there the cattle are bunched together and the representatives of each brand successively ride into the bunch and cut out their cattle, which are in turn driven to the corral and the calves roped, thrown and branded. This work continues until the whole country has been ridden over and all the calves branded. The principal object of the roundup is of course the branding of calves, to which may be added the driving in of the cattle that may have strayed too far from the ranche and the gathering of beef for sale and shipment.

STEER MATURING.

There is another branch of this industry that is comparatively speaking as yet in its infancy, but which bids fair to become an important factor in the cattle business. That is the transplanting of yearlings from the east, where winter feeding is necessary, to the western plains, where they are fattened on the natural grasses. This method has certain advantages over that just described, which may be made clear by a few figures. This business is commonly called steer maturing. To persons with capital and without a thorough practical experience in breeding and raising calves on the range and who wish to go into the cattle business this industry will present itself advantageously. The difficulties of breeding and raising cattle have hitherto been underestimated, and much money has been lost for want of experience, whereas the business of raising beef is conducted on lines which leave little to individual management. The

lines on which the business at present can be conducted are : A number of yearling steers are bought each spring for three years and turned out on the range. A suitable house with stables, corrals, etc., is put up with accommodation for two men. And in three years the first installed is ready for sale. Below are figures showing the cost and result of an investment in 250 yearling steers for three years in succession :

EXPENDITURE IN FIRST THREE YEARS.

250 yearlings each year, 750, at a cost laid down on the range of \$12	\$9,000
Wages of two men at \$40 and \$30 a month for three years.....	2,520
Board of men at \$15 per month each	1,080
Cost of buildings, furniture, etc	250
2 horses, wagon, mower, rake, etc	450
5 riding horses.....	200
Harness, saddles, etc	100
	<hr/>
	\$13,600

At the end of three years, allowing for loss, there would be on the ranche as follows :

Four year olds, 235 at \$40.....	\$9,400
Three year olds, 240 at 30.....	7,200
Two year olds, 245 at 20.....	4,900
	<hr/>
	\$21,500

The ranche would now be on a paying footing. There would be for sale 235 head of four year old steers valued at \$9,400, which would be disposed of as follows :

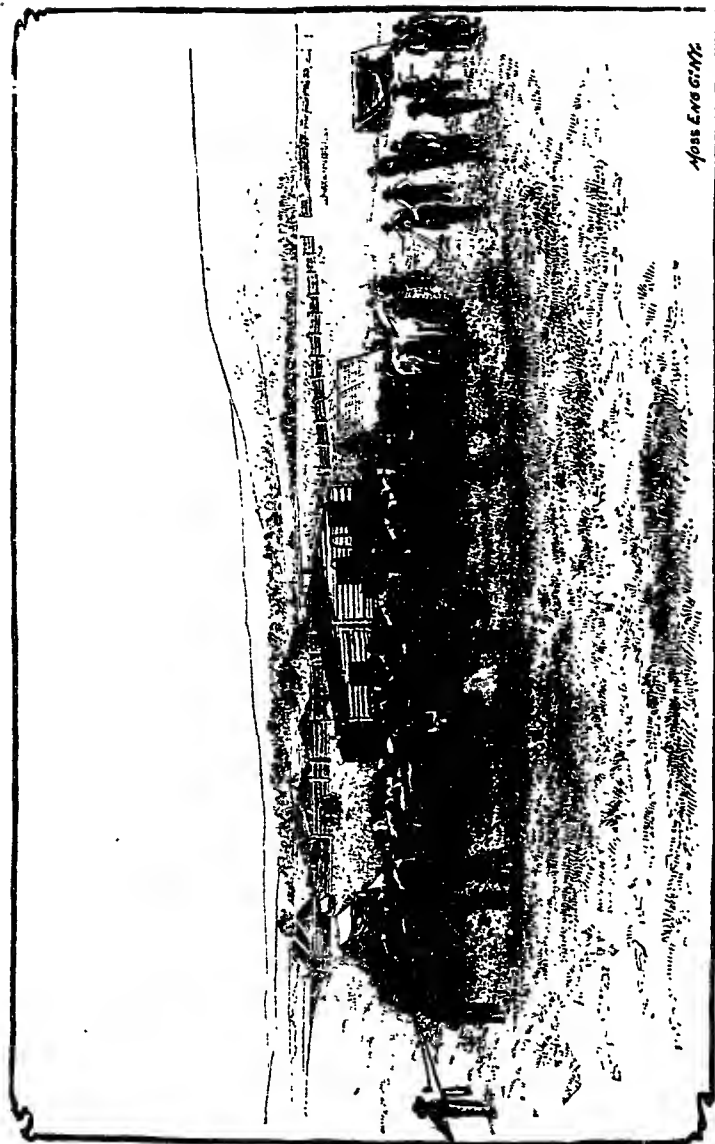
For purchase of 250 head of yearling steers	\$3,000
Wages and board of men	1,200
Sundries.....	200
	<hr/>
	\$4,450
Leaving a net income of.....	\$5,000

Each year it will go on the same.

The duties of your two men in summer will be to put up enough hay to feed the weakest stock for say one month in the year ; in spring and fall to ride the range, to assist in keeping the stock on the range, in which duty the stockmen bear their share ; in winter it will be necessary to ride so as to bring into the ranche all poor stock and feed through the severest weather. Of course the hay put up may not all be used, if so it can be re-stacked and kept over for another winter. Steer cattle in a healthy

condition come well through the severest winter. This business offers inducements to a man who has capital and wishes to invest in cattle for these reasons more so than to a man with a limited capital and who is looking for a home.

From the nature of the industry it is not necessary for an owner to give all his time to the business. If he was engaged in any other work, a couple of months in the year would be all that would be necessary to devote exclusively to it. Any party wishing to live on his ranche would not only save a considerable item in the wages and work of one man, but he would have the finest open air life possible, in a magnificent climate, where sport of all kind abounds. And even then in winter he could easily spare a few months without any injury to his interests.



Moss Lvs G. N. 12

A RANCHER'S HOME, MAPLE CREEK, ASSINIBOIA.

Assiniboia.

The District of Assiniboia lies between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, and extends north from the International boundary to the 52nd parallel of latitude, and contains an area of thirty-four million acres. Travelling westward on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the district is entered at a point 412 miles west of Winnipeg. It is divided into two great areas by the Missouri Coteau, or third prairie steppe that crosses the railway at Secretan Station. Each of these divisions has its own peculiar characteristics, making the eastern portion essentially a wheat-growing country, and the western better fitted for mixed farming and ranching. The great plain lying south of the Qu'Appelle River and stretching south to the International boundary is considered to have the largest acreage of wheat land, possessing a uniform character of soil found in any one tract of fertile prairie land in the Northwest. The eastern part of the district is known as the Park Country of the Canadian Northwest. The surface is rolling, dotted over with clumps of trees usually found bordering the shores of lakes or meadows. The valley of the Pipestone is considered one of the most attractive sections. *Coal in abundance* is found in the South, in the district drained by the Souris River. This district, including the Province of Manitoba, will one day be the

GREATEST WHEAT PRODUCING SECTION

Of the American continent, for the following reasons: 1st. It has a soil particularly rich in the food of the wheat plant. 2nd. A climate under which the plant comes to maturity with great rapidity, 3rd. On account of its northern latitude it receives more sunshine during the period of growth than the country to the south. 4th. Absence of rust, due to dryness of climate. 5th. Absence of insect foes.

These conditions are specially favorable to the growth of the hard, flinty wheat of the Scotch Fyfe variety that is so highly prized by millers all the world over, giving it a value of from 10c. to 25c. a bushel over the softer varieties grown in Europe and the older parts of Canada. It has now the distinctive designation in the wheat markets of the world of

"MANITOBA HARD."

While this soil produces a berry of such a high grade, the percentage between the amount of grain produced for that sown is amazing, and the record shows the average yield per acre is greater than in any other portion of the continent.

While Eastern Assiniboia has been described as being essentially a wheat-growing country, there are certain portions of it admirably suited to the raising of cattle, horses and sheep, and dairy-farming. Among these specially favored sections may be mentioned the Moose Mountain country, the Qu'Appelle Valley, and the Pheasant and Weed Hills.

At each of the points named flourishing colonies, composed of a superior class of settlers, chiefly from England, have been established. These communities already boast of many handsome residences and superior farm buildings, well built and well organized churches and schools, and the people have surrounded their new homes with many of the comforts of the old land. For the benefit of English readers who may be desirous of settling among fellow-countrymen, particular attention may be directed to Cannington Manor, south of Moose Mountain, which may be reached from Moosomin station; the Bristol settlement at Cotham, delightfully situated among the picturesque lakes of the Qu'Appelle Valley, distant fourteen miles from Broadview station; also the Weed Hills and Pipestone Valley, a short distance south of Grenfell. It would be difficult to imagine a more charming situation than the one selected by these latter settlers. Groves of aspens and maples crown the hills and bluffs, while between these are broad expanses of rich grass lands sloping gently down to the deep lakes of the lower valleys. In addition to the English colonists, this territory has attracted colonists from all parts of continental Europe.

Tributary to Whitewood are thrifty settlements of Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, French, Hungarians, Bohemians and Finlanders, who, while entering upon their lands with little or no capital, have been remarkably successful in making the land pay tribute to their energy and industry. It is impossible to observe the rapid advancement made by these people without being convinced that the natural resources of the country are of such a nature that any man, no matter what his nationality may be, is bound to succeed if he puts his heart into his work. The same can be said with regard to the Germans, Austrians, Russians and Roumanians, who have established colonies in the vicinity of Grenfell, Balgonie and Regina. Letters from residents of the several colonies referred to are published in this pamphlet, and parties desiring more particular information as to what has actually been accomplished are advised to communicate with the writers, whose addresses are given.

Assiniboia.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

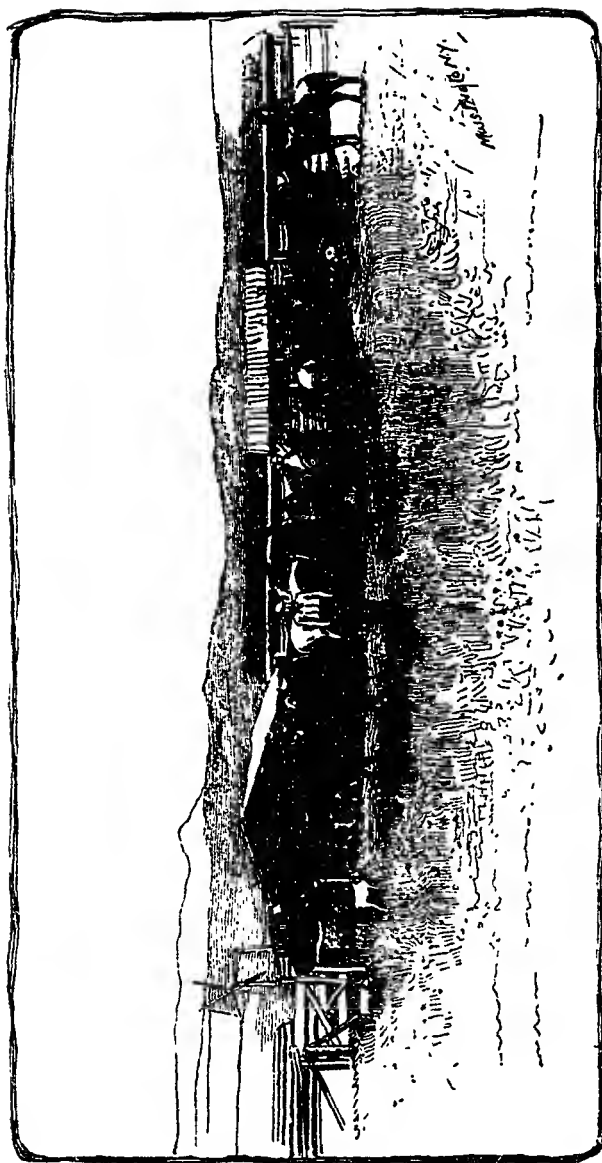
This region, which is fully equal to the Bow and Belly River district, as a stock country, has been ignored in the rush to the latter places. Stock-men are now beginning to appreciate its value, and as a result a marked increase is noticeable in the number of herds. The plain south of the railway line, lying along the base of the northern slope of the Cypress hills, and extending west to Medicine Hat, is unsurpassed for grazing purposes by any part of the Northwest. It is everywhere thickly covered with a good growth of nutritious grasses—the grass is usually the short crisp variety, known as “buffalo grass,” which becomes to all appearance dry about midsummer, but is still green and growing at the roots, and forms excellent pasture both in summer and winter. A heavy growth of grass suitable for hay is found in many of the river bottoms and surrounding the numerous lakes and sloughs. It is difficult to believe that cattle and horses prefer, what appears to the observer to be short, dried up grass, to the green juicy grasses of rank growth that are found bordering the lakes and sloughs; but it only requires a short experience of the country to prove the truth of this assertion. It is amazing the rapidity with which poor emaciated animals brought from the east get sleek and fat on the buffalo grass of the plains.

The supply of timber on the hills is considerable. There is also an abundance of fuel of a different kind in the coal seams that are exposed in many of the valleys.

Settlers in this section of country have thus at hand an abundant supply of timber suitable for house logs and fencing, and both coal and wood for fuel.

SETTLEMENTS.

The principal settlements are in the district south of Maple Creek, Dunmore and Medicine Hat. Parties in search of land, either for mixed farming or stock-raising, are advised to examine the country south-west of Swift Current station, along the Swift Current Creek, south and west of Gull Lake, south of Maple Creek, the valley of MacKay Creek that flows north from the hills crossing the track at Walsh, and south of Irvine and Dunmore.



RANCHE STABLES, ALBERTA.

THE OYPRESS HILLS COUNTRY.

These hills, which may be dimly seen in the south from the railway, are especially adapted for stock raising, and as their elevation is sufficient to make general farming an uncertainty, the grass land that nature has so bountifully provided will not likely be disturbed by the plough, thus giving to the farmer on the plains adjoining never failing hay meadows and unlimited pasture ground for his stock. The snow fall is light, the climate is tempered by the Chinook winds, and water and shelter are everywhere abundant. Professor Macoun, in his exploration of these hills, found that the grasses of the plateau were of the real pasturage species and produced abundance of leaves and were so tall that for miles at a time he had great difficulty in forcing his way through them. Although their seeds were all ripe August 14th, their leaves were quite green.

In all the valleys and on the rich soil of the higher grounds the grass was tall enough for hay. No better summer pasture is to be found in all the wide Northwest than exists on these hills, as the grass is always green, water of the best quality always abundant, and shelter from the autumnal and winter storms always at hand.

Yearlings are now being sent into this country all the way from Ontario to fatten on the nutritious grasses of these western plains, and it is reckoned that after paying cost of freight for 2,000 miles the profit will be greater than if these cattle had been fattened by stall feeding in Ontario. Everything seems to point towards this being the future fattening ground for cattle intended for European markets.

MAPLE CREEK.

This district, situated in the Chinook Belt, has a climate equal to any in the Territories; sheltered by the Cypress Hills, which run from east to west, it is protected from the extreme high winds which blow up from the south and west.

The Cypress Hills, with its level plateaus, scarred by deep coulees and creek valleys, that in old times used to be the wintering range of countless buffalo, affords now equally as good a range for domestic cattle.

Though as yet the district is not extensively stocked, it would surprise some who think they know all about the resources of the Territories did they but know the amount of stock on this range.

Though the industry is still young, and owners have only now commenced to realize on beef raised by themselves to a great extent, yet the exports of beef have already yielded large returns on the capital invested in this industry.

Maple Creek District is the nearest range country to the eastern markets. From this westward to the Rocky Mountains, a distance of between 200 and 300 miles, large grazing tracts alternate with lands admirably suited to mixed and dairy farming.

HORSES.

There are a number of horse ranches established in the district. One of these, the Oxerard Rancho, has for a number of years supplied the Mounted Police with remounts. These have acquired amongst the Police a name for everything that constitutes a good saddle horse.

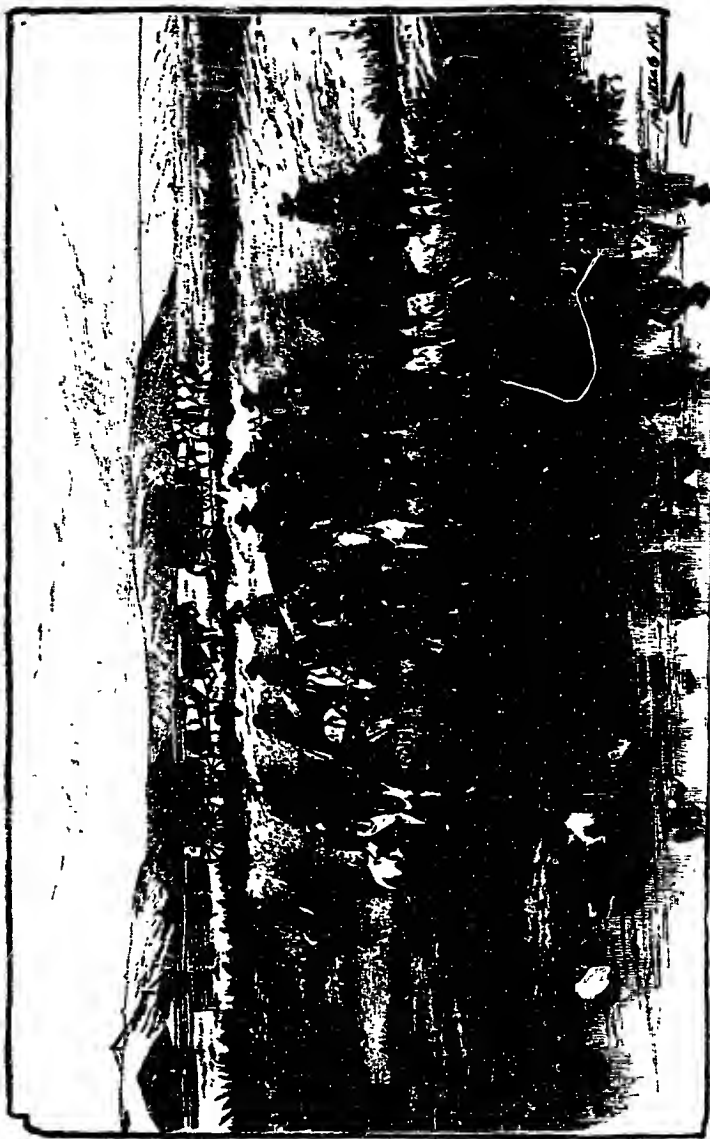
There are about 1,000 head of stock on the rancho, 350 of which are brood mares picked from over 2,000 which have passed through Mr. Oxerard's hands, which mares, served by thoroughbred stallions (Clyde and Cleveland bays), have bred colts of considerable value. These colts, from careful breaking and constant handling, cannot be distinguished from eastern horses in point of gentleness. He has also imported from England two thoroughbred blood stallions and three thoroughbred mares.

SHEEP

There are several large bands of sheep in this district, and though the settlers seem to prefer cattle to sheep, some think that for men with a little capital, but willing to give steady work and careful attention for a few years, it is the shortest road to success.

MIXED FARMING.

Besides the principal industry in which capital has played a large part there is yet (as men count more than dollars) the most important part of this community to be mentioned. Scattered along the creeks, here and there, are men who came in with nothing but a determination to make a home for themselves; numbers of whom, when they had erected their shack on the quarter section they had squatted on, having little more than the axe they held in their hands, had to close their door and go and seek work to enable them to commence farming. But, little by little, as you would expect from such men, they have accumulated wealth till the one time shack has become a comfortable farm house.



STARTING ON A ROUND UP.

Maple Creek is best adapted for such farming, though we would not advise anyone who wished to go into grain raising purely to go there. Manitoba has advantages over that district in this respect, but for anyone who wished to combine farming with stock raising, we would advise them to try Maple Creek.

The district possesses as good soil, capable of raising as large a crop as any part of Manitoba ; with the addition of a climate that will allow stock wintering out, with the greatest ease.

Also, from the nature of the country, part being so rough as to unfit it for cultivation, there will be ample pasturage for a long time to come, there will therefore not be the danger of being hemmed in, that all parties experience, who attempt to handle a large number of stock in a purely farming district.

British Columbia, with its wealth of mineral, only waiting for capital to develop, will in the near future, be the home of countless thousands, and cities will flourish in places now only known to the prospector.

From the limited area of land fitted for cultivation in British Columbia its inhabitants will have to look to the east for their food supply. On this account it is plain that farmers living in the Maple Creek district may safely rely upon having a convenient market where they will receive the highest prices for their produce.

With the advantage of a climate which allows stock to run out all winter without danger, beef can be raised here at a much less cost than it can in the east, where all stock must be fed five months in the year. With the increase of population will come the introduction of cheese factories and creameries, the product of which will find an unlimited market in the West.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE

MAPLE CREEK, ASSA.

DEAR SIR,—I am just going to write and give you my opinion of this country, so far as it affects small farmers like myself. Well, I have been here six years and am well pleased that I came to Maple Creek, where the climate is comparatively mild and the land good. Hard work of course is necessary everywhere, where one has as little hired labour as possible. From my experience I think mixed farming best for a man of small capital. I do not believe in keeping entirely to grain producing or stock raising, for the one helps the other so much. As you know, I shipped wheat last year which graded No. 1 hard ; this year my crop was not so good. My land would have been fallowed if I had had my second homestead then to crop, and in future I intend to crop and fallow alternately, and believe it will pay. My cattle have done well, beyond my hopes or expectations,

every cow and two year old heifer having a calf : also, I have been able to make 1,600 lbs of butter from the few cows I have milked, after feeding their calves. I have lots of applications from the old country for information about this district, and always reply to come by all means if you have a little capital and really intend to work, or if you have no capital be willing to work for some practical man until you have gained sufficient experience to be worth good wages. Hoping I have given you all the particulars you wish for.

Yours truly,

F. W. PERCOCK.



RANGE CATTLE, OYRESS HILLS.

Alberta.

Alberta, the most western district of the Territories, is fast amassing such wealth within her precincts as will give her a foremost place among the provinces of the Dominion. In the early days when the first white man came to trade with the Indians, they were struck with the hordes of buffalo that wintered in the lands on the western slopes of the Rockies. Some of their horses were lost during the winter months, and the traders were amazed to find them in the spring sleek and fat as if they had been stall-fed. This led these people to argue that as the buffalo and horse wintered out with such good results, the same prairie would feed domestic cattle and horses.

Of the early settlers that came in, comparatively few of them engaged in farming, from the fact that it was almost impossible to bring seed and implements into the country, and, again, because there would be but little sale for their products.

Still, a few around each police post did raise oats, potatoes and vegetables to supply the needs of the Government, and as the soil was particularly productive and the prices good, they made a living so easily that there was scarcely any incentive to industry.

When Manitoba was first opened up by the Canadian Pacific Railway, the first settlers found a country so good that they settled at once, without knowing or finding out what a grand country well watered with pure water, supplied with abundance of wood and coal, and enjoying a splendid climate, lay to the west. Indeed, it was impossible in those days to get into this country without undergoing the severest privations, but the advent of the railway brought about a new order of things. The railroad contractors and workmen, when they reached Alberta, found a country so vastly different from what they had seen before, that a great many of them made an inspection of the country to the south, and although the only men farming to any extent were John Glen, Sam Livingstone and James Votier, their crops were so luxuriant that they decided to settle in the district and make Alberta their home. Since that time there has been a steady increase in her population, and now we find large area of cultivated lands yielding the finest crops, oats producing from 60 to 70 bushels per acre, weighing from 45 to 52 pounds to the bushel, with barley equally as good. But little wheat was sown until last year and the present, but the yield has been enormous, averaging from 30 to 40 bushels

per acre. But Alberta is as yet in its infancy; there are thousands of acres of the finest imaginable lands well watered by the purest streams and springs, covered with luxuriant grass, awaiting the toil of the husbandman to make them wave the golden grain. But grain raising is only one of the industries of this country, and rightly takes second place to stock raising. The climate is so favorable that thousands of cattle and horses graze out all winter, and the possibilities of dairying are almost inconceivable; the long season from April to December, when the prairie produces watered fodder, together with the pure water and cool nights, render Alberta particularly adapted to the manufacture of butter and cheese.

REV. A. ROBERTSON, PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER, PINE CREEK, ALBERTA.

To the Intending Settler:

As you are in search of a future home allow me to give you a leaf from my experience of six years in the west as to the advantage of this locality and southern Alberta as a desirable place to locate. After seeing the territory and Manitoba to some extent I have preferred Alberta for three main reasons: its *climate*, its *grass* and its *water*.

Its climate.—Much has been said and written on this subject, and when all have said their little on the theme it will be found to surpass all description. I won't say there is no winter here, nor yet that we can grow oranges, but take it season with season the year through, and I have seen nothing in our Dominion that is to be compared with Alberta for climate, and, as a friend said to me lately, for comfort, health and pleasure we have the finest climate in the world.

Its grass.—The grass is not only here in abundance, but its nature adapts it for winter ranging, so that already many a hundred head of stock has come to the eastern market from our plains that never received food from the hands of man until loaded on the car for the market, and finer beef could not be desired. When the stock owned by settlers shall fill these plains as the buffalo did, by the million, in the palmy days of but a few years back, then wealth, abundance and joy shall be our reward; the stayers shall have this harvest. Looking at the progress of the past six years I feel convinced that many of this generation, even if I do not, shall see that day. We can boast of an extensive coal field, timber to some extent, and valuable minerals; but it is its grass, combined with its pure water and fine climate that is to make this part of our Dominion the wealthiest portion of our heritage.

Its water.—Purer, clearer and finer water it would be hard to find, abundance of which is to be found everywhere in this district. What with springs that live and flow as open water the year round, rivulets, brooks and rivers, fresh from the snow-capped mountains to the west, neither man nor beast ever know the lack of one of nature's greatest blessings, *good water*. Here we have the prairies and the plains without the monotony of the vast country to the east of us. A sight more inspiring than that to be obtained as one reaches the top of many of the ridges that lie between our large rivers neither artist nor poet could paint or imagine. There the grandeur of those lofty peaks that in their purity point heaven-

ward can be scanned by the naked eye for mile after mile, while at their base lies the lower-formed hills clothed with their evergreen timber, out from which comes, here and there, a dark stream which tells of crystal streams that come to bless our heritage. There Nature, Artist and Poet, converse with man in a language not to be misunderstood. Behold ! it is all very good.

Here mixed farming can be carried on to the greatest advantage ; grain and roots of all kinds, requisite for man or beast, can be cultivated to advantage, while the butter and cheese capacities of Alberta are such that we need but the settler to control a fair share of the wealth coming from such products. But I must leave this subject as space will not permit of it here ; yet I may say in this connection that the settler can give more time to this industry in Alberta without neglecting his stock than in other parts of the Dominion. One is not one half of the year gathering in food for his stock and the other half feeding it out to them. All young stock and what is for the market can, with but little attention, provide for themselves until they are ready for the market.

I will close with a few statements as to the capacity of the country to produce grain. In wheat we are not claiming to stand with Manitoba, but the last three years has convinced many that we can supply the home demand for flour. In oats and barley we will take second place to no country. I have the average yield per acre of our place for the last three years. In 1886 twenty acres under crop, average yield per acre 48 bushels ; in 1887 forty-five acres, average yield 33 bushels ; in 1888 sixty acres, average yield 54 bushels per acre. Twenty acres of the sixty this year yielded an average of 68 bushels per acre, and the oats weigh forty-four pounds to the bushel. While these are not the highest reports of these years nor yet the lowest, they are a fair average, and justify to my mind, at least, the statement contained in this letter and give us abundance of hope for the future. Will you be one to come and take part with us in the blessings a kind and loving hand has provided for His creatures ?

WHO SHOULD GO TO ALBERTA.

While Alberta offers inducements to industrious emigrants from all civilized nations, the class who are most likely to succeed here at this stage of the country's history are men and families of some means, practical farmers, and, above all, the dairy farmers of England, Ireland and Scotland. To this class Alberta offers inducements which few, if any other countries can offer. A country where laws are good, where life and property are as safe as in any part of the world, where the educational advantages are exceptionally good ; a land of bright, sunny skies and healthful climate ; a new land where millions of acres of virgin soil await the industry of the new comer ; free lands in the most progressive country of the age ; markets good and growing better each year ; a land promising wealth to the industrious and practical.



PRAIRIE BRANDING.

The capitalist will find in Alberta an interesting and profitable field for investment ; it would be fruitless to attempt to point out the many channels for investment. They are a legion ; each day some new mineral discovery is made known, some new industry promising large returns crops up ; everywhere is the want of capital felt. The industries connected with cattle, sheep and horse raising and dairy farming alone are so great that imagination cannot grasp them and the capitalist in Alberta has a large choice of pursuits promising rich rewards.

To the laborer, the industrious farm laborer who will work contentedly for a few years until he acquires capital to start farming for himself, Alberta offers bright prospects ; if he is sober and economical success greater than his most sanguine expectations is within his reach.

To the servant girls of the old country, and especially to girls accustomed to dairy work we would say that Alberta needs your labor and industry and offers you good wages to start with ; it rests largely with yourself if you are long seeking employment. New homes are springing up every day and progressive settlers are continually seeking good wives. The prospect that you may in the near future fill the honored position of a good wife to a worthy man and be mistress of a comfortable happy home of your own should be an inducement to tempt good, sensible women to come to Alberta.

The invalid will find in Alberta a bracing climate to recuperate his health, and the virtues of its hot mineral springs are becoming universally extolled.

The sportsman, tourist, artist, botanist and geologist will find that the mountains, forests, lakes and prairies of Alberta afford abundance of pleasure, interest and information. A large portion of Northwestern Alberta is but little known and is an almost unexplored country and offers much to lovers of adventure and exploration.

For educated labor there are very few openings here ; clerks, salesmen and educated men of no particular calling and who have no means should not come. The supply already here far exceeds the demand. Professional men with limited means expecting to make a living out of the practise of their profession are also likely to be disappointed ; there are already more lawyers, doctors, engineers, surveyors, etc., than there is at present profitable practice for. The country needs producers and capitalists ; men of idle and extravagant habits, men with no capital and who are unaccustomed to manual labor will be likely to meet with hardship and disappointment. Farmers with some capital, say from \$500 (£100) to \$2,000 (£400) will find this a good country, providing always they are industrious, economical and practical. With \$2,000 to \$3,000 a man with a family to help him can make a splendid start in dairy or mixed farming with every chance of growing wealthy in a very few years.

WHEN TO COME.

The settler coming to Alberta will be rather benefited than otherwise by coming early in the spring. Spring work, ploughing, etc., generally commences at the end of February and seldom later than the middle of March. True, after that we have some disagreeable cold spells, but it will be a decided advantage to the new comer to arrive in good season, as, if he intends entering into dairy farming, he will be in a position to enjoy the full benefit of the season, and there is no reason why he should not make money from the first by butter-making. It will be found that outside the supply of clothing for himself and family, it is more profitable to purchase his requirements when he arrives at his destination. Money in his pocket will secure him the necessaries suitable to the country, whereas the useless, though possibly costly amount of baggage which so many bring, is often found a hindrance in many ways. When you have thoroughly made up your mind to emigrate, purchase a "through ticket" to Calgary, if you intend settling in the centre or northern part of Alberta.

Do not believe any discouraging reports of the country which interested parties are so willing to circulate. More than a few have been deterred from coming here by false reports. The letters published in this pamphlet are written by practical people of good standing, and you cannot get a better idea of the country than by reading them over carefully. When you have done so, you will very likely be convinced that this is a good country; and when you come, if you are of the right material, you will find success crown your labors.

The District of Alberta has an area of over 100,000 square miles. It extends from the 49th parallel of latitude for over 450 miles north to the territory of Athabasca, and from about the 111th degree of longitude on the east to the Province of British Columbia on the west. The province may be divided into three parts, each of which has a special and distinctive capability of its own. First, that western portion which takes in the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, and out through the foot-hills to the prairie proper. This division has immense treasures of mineral wealth, forests of timber, and everlasting reservoirs of water.

The remainder of Alberta, comprising more than two-thirds of the province, may be divided again into Southern and Northern Alberta.

Southern Alberta, which extends from the international boundary for two hundred miles to a point about forty miles north of Calgary, and from the edge of the foot-hills to the boundary line of Assiniboia, is one of the greatest stock countries on the continent of America. This section, while generally known as a stock-raising country, produces excellent crops of

wheat, oats and barley, both as regards quality and yield. In this way it is particularly favored, for, while it is unsurpassed as a stock country, it is also admirably adapted to growing the grains of commerce.

Northern Alberta embraces the great fertile tract of country watered by the Red Deer, the Battlo, the North Saskatchewan and Sturgeon rivers. It is a country pre-eminently suited to mixed farming. It is well wooded and watered, and abounds with natural hay meadows. A settler going into this country with little means does not need to expend his capital in purchasing lumber to provide buildings for himself and his stock. As regards water, there are magnificent water-courses, innumerable lakes, mountain streams, and creeks and springs. This district offers millions of acres of deep, rich soil, and possesses beyond dispute the most uniformly productive land at present open for free settlement.

CLIMATE.

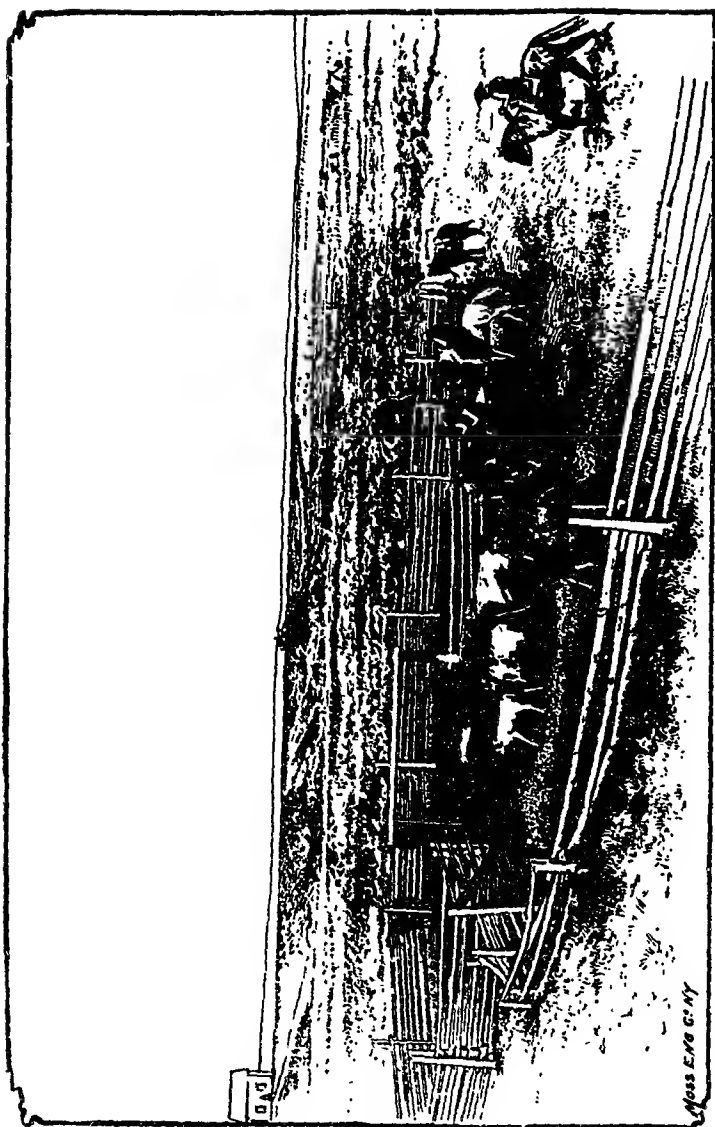
One of the greatest delights incidental to life in this highly favored country is found in the magnificence of the climate. It may truly be said, for the meteorological records amply prove it, that there is no place on this western hemisphere that enjoys more bright sunlight during the year round than Alberta, and it enjoys at least fifty per cent. more than the average.

There is no rainy season in Alberta; no two or three months of wet and slush, sleet and rain, in the fall, as in some other parts of the Dominion.

The autumn weather of Alberta is perfect. Towards the end of September the air gets chilly at night, with frost enough to make the roads crisp in the morning; the sun rises in matchless splendor, the blue vault of heaven is unmarked with even the shadow of a cloud, the atmosphere clear and light, bright and invigorating, thrilling every pulsation of feeling, sharpening the intellect, and infusing ruddy energy into every part of the body.

No one can do justice with the pen to the splendor of this weather; day after day, week after week, sometimes clear up to Christmas-tide, this fall weather remains unbroken, warm, joyous, delicious.

When winter sets in the siege is usually sharp, short and decisive. The writer has seen the thermometer 25° below zero, but, as a matter of fact, the writer has also experienced winter weather in Ontario when the thermometer was standing above zero, but the cold seemed more intense, more searching and greatly more discomforting than at 25° below zero in Alberta.



A PRAIRIE CORRAL.

This is now a well recognized distinction between the weather east and west of Canada, and it entirely rejects the thermometer as an index of the comparative severity of winter weather. The reason of the difference has often been explained—the air of Alberta is singularly free from moisture, that of Ontario is humid.

The spring season of Alberta is the most trying ; not because it is particularly wet, or severe, or long, but because with a mild winter one expects to see a correspondingly early spring. In Alberta one is usually disappointed on that score, because the spring there is very rarely any earlier than in Manitoba or Ontario. The winter is shortened mostly by its often being nearly New Year before there is any winter weather to speak of ; but the summer once entered upon, the weather is superb. Between the days of bright, life-producing sunshine copious warm showers fall, bathing the rich soil like a hot-bed, and forcing vegetation forward in rapid and rank profusion.

It is the fact that the atmosphere in Alberta is at all times so free from humidity or vapor, that recommends the climate so strongly to people suffering with pulmonary or bronchial affections. In the earlier stages of disease it cannot but be efficacious, while with the more advanced it is of course a matter of doubt ; but to keep a healthy man healthy, a sound man sound, an energetic man full of life and determination, there is no climate like Alberta.

THE COAL FIELDS OF ALBERTA.

The known coal fields of Alberta are both varied and extensive, covering an area extending from the easterly limits of the province near Medicine Hat to Banff on the west, and from the international boundary on the south to the northerly limit of the province, being a tract of country approximately two hundred miles square, and containing forty thousand square miles. When it is considered that each square mile will yield one million tons of coal for each foot of thickness of the coal seams therein, one almost fails to appreciate the enormous quantity of fuel thus stored, for the use of future generations, upon this plain. It is hardly possible to over-estimate the value of a country which, in addition to being one of the most fertile and productive upon the continent of America, thus carries almost immediately beneath its surface so valuable a deposit of mineral.

The quality of coal varies from a good lignite on the east, to a good bituminous coal found twenty-five miles west of Calgary, and extending

to the vicinity of Canmore ; a distance of thirty miles from the last named point to Banff is an anthracite region, the coal being not inferior to the best produced in Pennsylvania.

The workable seams vary in thickness from three feet to thirteen, while there are at least fifteen known seams running from six inches to eighteen inches, of course the latter being only workable under exceptional circumstances, where there is a local market.

The Medicine Hat lignites have been worked to a greater or less extent during the past five years, and are still being worked. They produce a good domestic coal, which is also fairly good for use in stationary engines. The seam is about five feet in thickness. The next in order are the Lethbridge mines, or what is commonly known as the "Galt Coal Field." These mines have also been worked during the past six years with a constantly increasing out-put. The construction of a railway from Lethbridge to the great smelting centres of Anaconda and Butte, Montana, U. S., has opened a new market for this coal. The coal company are therefore daily increasing their out-put, and in 1891 expect to be in a position to turn out 2,000 tons per day. The mines are situated one hundred and ten miles from the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway and are connected with it by a narrow gauge railway. The coal is an excellent one, both for domestic and steam purposes, and bears transportation well ; it is semi-bituminous in character, and the seam is about five feet in thickness.

During the past autumn the Canadian Pacific Railway Company have been testing a coal field at Crowfoot Creek, near the railway, and found two seams, one about three feet in thickness, and an underlying one about thirteen feet. This coal has also been found to the north, upon the Rosebud and Deer rivers, and evidently extends throughout a larger extent of country at no great depth.

These coals are also lignitic in character, but prove first-class fuel, being quick to ignite and burning with a strong heat, their most serious fault being their lightness and tendency to decrepitate upon exposure to the weather. This tendency may, however, altogether subside, as was the case with the Lethbridge coals, upon their being extensively mined. It might be proper here to say that these coals extend well up towards Calgary, and probably underlie the whole country at no serious depth, being in a nearly horizontal position, the greatest incline not exceeding 10°.

The most workable coals are found at what are known as the Barr River and Coal Creek mines. And here a material change takes place in their character, becoming bituminous, and yielding a large quantity of tar and oil when submitted to heat, very fine illuminating gas and excellent

coke, which will bear transportation. This coal is likely to prove valuable for smelting purposes, in connection with the working of precious minerals in the mountains in the vicinity. It has proved very little inferior to the best Pennsylvania bituminous coals in the several tests that have been made.

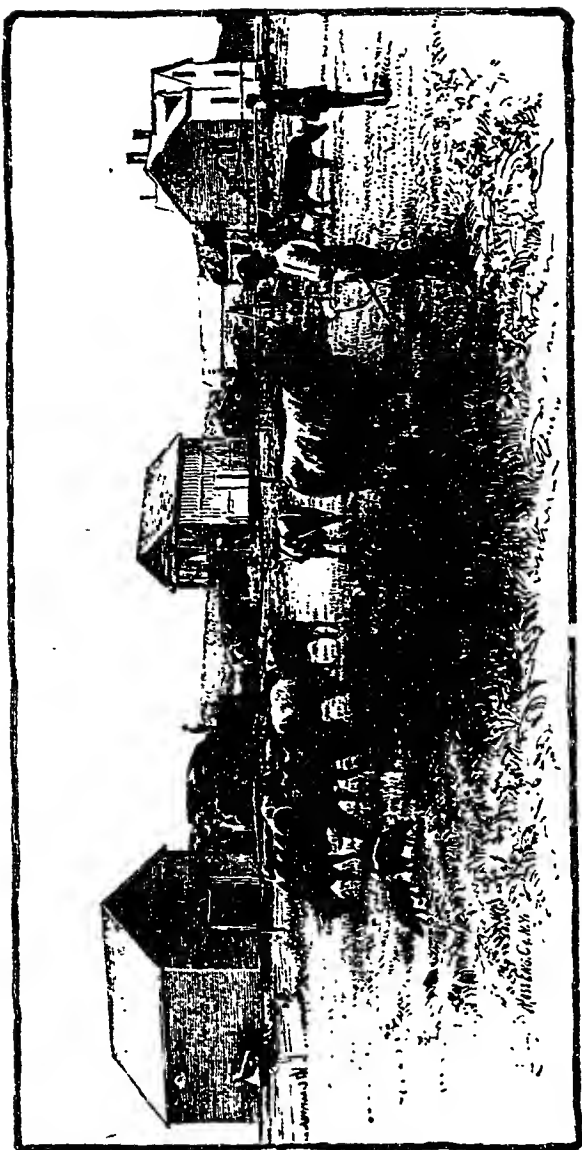
The main seam consists of seven feet of coal, [with an over-lying one of eighteen inches, and numerous smaller ones, all very similar in character.

This field has been worked during the past three years, but not very extensively as yet. The coals lie at an angle or dip of 30° to 35° , and have been traced for miles upon the strike, both north and south. A few fairly good seams have been found between Calgary and Canmore, but the district has not yet been fully explored.

What might be termed the "Canmore Basin" extends in a north-westerly direction from Kananaskis on the Bow River, and continues for a considerable distance. It is found on the Red Deer River also, and recent geological explorations have discovered deposits of anthracite extending for some fifty miles along the north branch of the Saskatchewan River. The trend of these seams is a little north of north-west, and their dip varies from 30 to 60 degrees. At Canmore, where most of the exploration has been carried on, no less than fourteen seams have been discovered, varying from two feet six inches in thickness to fourteen feet, and the quality is from bituminous to anthracite. Further north seams of twenty feet in thickness are reported to have been discovered, but they have not been prospected sufficiently to enable this to be verified. Most other bituminous and semi-anthracite coal found in this district are of very good coking qualities. Adjacent to these are immense beds of iron ore, already referred to, of the quality necessary to produce the highest grades of steel.

We now arrive at the anthracite mines situated five miles east of Banff. These were first opened about six years ago, but no attempt was made to work them upon an extensive scale until about three years ago, since which time work has been pushed vigorously. The seams are three, four and seven feet respectively, the first named yielding a very fine, clean coal. The inclines have only been driven a few hundred feet upon the seven feet seam, but it has shown a constant improvement, and may be reasonably expected to prove a very fine vein. The coal is of a very fine quality, high in carbon, and remarkably free from any deleterious substance. In addition to the local market, this coal has an extensive one in California and all along the Pacific coast.

Coal of excellent quality is found almost everywhere in the Edmonton district at a depth of from ten to one hundred feet below the surface in seams from two to thirty feet in thickness. The coal burned in the town



THE RESULT OF SIX YEARS' WORK IN THE NORTH-WEST.

of Edmonton is mined directly under it, tunnels being run in on the coal seams from the face of the river banks. Four mines are worked within the town limits, the coal is universally used for heating, cooking, steam raising and blacksmithing, and is delivered from the mines at \$3 a ton. The Sturgeon River settlers use coal taken from the bank of a small tributary of the Sturgeon in that settlement, and indeed coal is easily accessible in every part of the district where a stream cuts a deep enough valley to expose the seam.

The foregoing covers the ground in a cursory way ; scientific facts are not necessary to establish the value of the coal deposits. The fact of their existence, together with the very satisfactory results of their use, during the past two or three years, has placed this beyond a doubt.

MINERALS.

IRON ORE.

Large deposits of excellent iron ores are to be found in the vicinity of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in ranges 13 and 14 W. 5th M., which, in connection with the fine cooking coals a slight distance to the east, renders the production of iron within the near future one of the probabilities.

COPPER.

At Copper Mountain, and for a considerable radius therefrom, large deposits of copper are found ; most of them carry more or less silver. The country has not been thoroughly prospected, but sufficient has been done to warrant the confident expectation that it requires but the outlay of capital to render that section a busy hive of industry, profitable to the prospector, miner and capitalist and, like all mining enterprises, a source of great wealth to the agriculturists of Alberta, who must furnish the requisite supplies.

LEAD.


One of the largest deposits of lead known in the world lies a very short distance west of Alberta, on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and further explorations will probably demonstrate that the same

extends within the boundaries of said district, but even if it does not, the working of these mines must be of great benefit to the district, in the matter of supplies required. This lead carries a considerable percentage of silver, and the deposit is now being worked with considerable vigor. The immense mineral deposits which, within the past season, have been discovered in the Selkirks, will no doubt within a year or two furnish employment to thousands of toilers, and the necessities of life must be furnished by the agriculturists of Alberta. In this connection it might not be out of place to direct the reader's attention to the fact that the *per capita* consumption of a mining camp is about three-fold greater than that of an ordinary population.

SILVER.

All the copper and lead deposits already mentioned carry more or less silver, and the experience of most other places will, no doubt, be found to hold good here; that is, the greater the development the richer the vein will prove. Sufficient is already known to warrant the employment of both labor and capital on an extensive scale. Most of the ores are sufficiently rich in silver to leave a good margin of profit to be worked for this metal alone, but the establishment of modern smelting works would enable many of the lower grades to be operated with profit, and which are now unmarketable.

GOLD.



In the immediate neighborhood of the Canadian Pacific Railway through Alberta, and for some distance to the west of it, quartz carrying gold, except associated with silver, copper and lead ores, have not been found to any extent. On the Columbia, Saskatchewan, Athabasca, Canoe and Peace Rivers, and tributaries thereof, placer deposits exist. Some of them have been known for years, and worked to a greater or less extent, by hand labor, and at a time when the supplies cost a fabulous amount: when tea, soap, nails, sugar, beans, flour, bacon, had a uniform price per pound, varying from \$1 to \$2; keeping that in view, with provisions at what they can now be furnished at, and with the appliances of modern machinery, hydraulics, etc., there should be nothing to prevent many of these old camps being profitably opened up again, and when general attention is once directed to it, it will, no doubt, be speedily followed by the discovery of new fields, and as has been the case in nearly every other locality, also followed by the discovery and profitable working of quartz veins of the valuable metal.

BUILDING MATERIAL.

CLAYS.

In the eastern portion of Alberta is situated an immense deposit of clay, which has been submitted for treatment at the terra cotta works of Philadelphia, and pronounced equal to the best known. Coal lies alongside this clay, so that nature has done everything possible to render the economic production of that ware, an article growing in public favor with very great rapidity. Clays suitable for the manufacture of bricks of all classes are everywhere to be met with.

LIME AND SAND

are obtainable at almost any point.

BUILDING STONES.

Sandstone, equal to the best Ohio is everywhere to be met with along the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains, and in some places extending a very considerable distance eastward therefrom. The eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains consists chiefly of limestone suitable for building and the manufacture of lime. In very many places this rock is of a micaceous nature and *in situ*, so that it can be quarried into blocks of any size and shape, readily dressed, and capable of a very high polish.

QUARTZITES

can be obtained of any size, tint or color, many rivalling the serpentine marbles in beauty.

NATURAL GAS.


For the past five years, gas wells have been in operation at Langevin and Cassils Stations of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the only two points in the district where borings have been carried on to any considerable depth. The supply is unlimited, and no doubt the same article can be obtained at very many other points, which will prove the greatest stimulant to manufacturing, and also become a very large factor in domestic economy and comfort.

PETROLEUM.

Petroleum has been found in the Rocky Mountains in the southerly part of this district, the quality being considered A1. As to the quantity, that remains to be determined, but arrangements are now being perfected by which within a year thorough tests will be made and experts are very sanguine of the quantity to be obtained. The greatest undeveloped fields of petroleum are those of the Athabasca and Peace Rivers, and their tributaries, a basin covering thousands of square miles. These lie just on the northerly edge of Alberta, extending into the District of Athabasca, but any developments therein done will be tributary to Alberta.

WILD FLOWERS.

Nature has showered on this land her choicest gifts, the countless charms which make this earth so fair and beautiful are here in rich profusion, and as of old when God first created the world, "behold! it is very good." Not the least of its attractions are wild flowers which adorn the prairies from early spring to autumn, ever changing yet ever lovely; from the pale lavender crocus, which in nature's floral book is the opening leaf, pushing its way through the brown earth and blossoming into a lovely flower to gladden the settler's heart by proclaiming that spring is here, to the golden rod which lingers after the other flowers are faded and gone.



Among the early spring flowers is that little home plant, the blue violet, endeared to us all by the reminiscences it brings of other lands. June comes and with it that flower of flowers, the rose. Everywhere over the prairies is to be seen this little dwarf bush, with its wealth of bright blossoms, breathing into the air their delicious perfume; these are mostly bright, crimson, single roses, but there are some, both single and double, of the most delicate blush tints. The charm of this plant does not cease with the flower; in the autumn the foliage assumes a deep crimson and orange-brown coloring, this and its bright scarlet berries make it a most attractive shrub. The months of June and July abound in flowers innumerable of every hue, the pale anemone, the blue bell perfect in shape and color, the cyclamen, the exquisitely lovely lupines, blue, pink and white, the first quite common, the remaining two more rare; banks of purple and wild thyme, the air fragrant with its spicy aroma. The most brilliant of all flowers is that elegant floral gem, the orange red



A NORTH-WEST RANCHE.

ily, which grows here in myriads, acres upon acres all ablaze with glory. Growing among the lilies, and making a most pleasing contrast, is a flower for which I have no name, but which for its beauty and the wild profusion in which it grows here, deserves notice ; it grows about eighteen inches high, the stem crowned with a cluster of small, wax-flowers of every variety, from the light mauve to the bright orange, yellow being the prevailing color. Another flower which may be mentioned as resembling both in form and color, the beautiful laburnum, and another one, the gorgeous sunflower. This flower, which grows a foot or rather more above the ground, and is three or four inches in diameter, has a circle of rich golden leaves extending like rays from a centre of rich, reddish brown ; the coloring is superb, even the most æsthetic taste would be charmed with this wild beauty of the prairie.

These are a very few culled from the vast multitude which bedeck our favored land.

"Flowers so blue and golden,
Stars that in Earth's firmament do shine."

CATTLE RAISING.

To-day Alberta stands peerless among the cattle countries of the world. An unknown land of a few years ago, it is now looked to as one of the greatest future supply depots of the British market.

The winter grazing grounds of the Northwest were, comparatively speaking, unknown before the year 1880. Reports at the time reached some of the prominent stock raisers of the east of the richness of the grasses of the western plains, bordering the foot-hills of the Rockies, and the light snow-fall in that region. In a short time steps were taken to test the truth of these reports, and no sooner were the unrivalled advantages of the country understood, than ranche after ranche was established, and the present profitable industry fairly begun.

The largest number of cattle are on the ranches of Southern Alberta. These animals are not given either food or shelter at any season of the year other than what nature provides, and are only seen by the owners at the round-up, when the animals are collected together for the purpose of branding, etc.

That this system is the most profitable one is more than doubtful. Each year's experience points out that there is more profit and economy in providing food and shelter for them during the worst winter weather. Severe seasons will now and again occur and to insure against losses in

such seasons food and shelter are advisable, and the belief is fast gaining ground among cattle men that the most profitable way of handling cattle in large bands is to be prepared to feed calves and weak cows during severe storms and thus avoid the risk of loss. The saying among Alberta stock men is that "you cannot kill a steer with bad weather," as he will keep rustling and come out fat in the spring after the most severe winter. It has been conceded by experienced men of many countries that Alberta stands first as a cattle country in the abundance of its native grasses, plentiful supply of water and natural shelter, and comparing the losses in Alberta since cattle ranching commenced with those of the western States during the same period it will be found that when the cattle men of Montana and Wyoming lost 60 and 70 per cent. during severe winters the losses on the Alberta ranges did not exceed 15 per cent. That even these losses should occur in a land where millions of tons of hay annually go to waste shows that judicious economy is not exercised in the cattle business. Attention, industry and intelligent labor are as necessary to success in this as in any other occupation. In point of quality the cattle of Alberta will compare favorably with those of any country. Thoroughbred bulls of all breeds have been imported and the result is that, taken as a whole, the cattle of Alberta are of a superior class. Alberta is now shipping fat steers to England—range fed beef, which holds its own with the choicest stall-fed article.

Some idea can be formed of the profits accruing to cattle raisers from the fact that for the four year old steers comprised in the shipments to Europe as high as \$45 (£9) per head is paid on the foot at Calgary, while the cost of raising consisted almost entirely for management and herding, the animals having been fattened solely on the natural grasses.

HORSE BREEDING.

As a horse breeding country Alberta bids fair to be to Canada what Kentucky is to the United States. A country where the horse attains the very height of perfection. Its northern location, its high altitude, its invigorating and dry atmosphere, mild winters with luxuriant grasses and plentiful supply of purest water are all conducive to the growth and development of the noble animal, and although the industry is still very young the Alberta horse has become noted for endurance, lung power and freedom from hereditary or other diseases.

There are at present in Alberta great bands of horses varying in point of quality from the hardy (Cayuse) Indian pony to the beautiful, well formed thoroughbred. Thoroughbreds from Great Britain and Kentucky,

Clydesdales from Scotland, Percherons from France and trotting stock from the United States have been imported at great expense and the result is that the young horses of Alberta will compare with any in Canada. A better display of horseflesh than that made at the Calgary Agricultural Exhibitions would be difficult to find.

As an investment horse ranching in Alberta offers bright inducements and the farmer or capitalist coming to this country and wishing to engage in this business will find millions of unoccupied meadow lands possessing every attraction and advantage from which to choose a location; will find too a country where the cost of raising horses is surprisingly low; for, while it is necessary to provide corrals and winter sheds and a certain amount of hay to guard against losses in very severe seasons, it will also be found that there is an illimitable supply of nutritious grasses. Timber for building purposes is to be had for the cost of cutting and hauling, and with the small amount of hired labor required to conduct the business the expense will be light when compared with the profits which are assured to those who engage in the industry in a practical and intelligent manner.

During the most severe seasons horses will thrive on the ranges along the foot hills of the Rocky Mountains without feed or shelter other than they will provide for themselves and in the spring will be found fat with sleek coats. Still, it will pay best to give young stock and brood mares, until they become acclimatized, food and shelter during the early months of the year.

As to the market, it is continually growing better; a good animal will also command a good price. The Northwest Mounted Police annually require a number of saddle horses. The officers of the British army will find Alberta the depot from which to secure the best animals for their purposes. The incoming settlers will for years to come require a large number of animals, and for heavy draft horses there is practically no limit to the demand: Eastern Canada, the United States and Great Britain require thousands of them each year. To those coming to Alberta the writer would say: bring as many first-class brood mares as you possibly can, and if you should not desire to settle here you will find a ready market for your stock at prices which will yield you a handsome profit on the investment, and, indeed, the same may be said of all breeds of domestic animals. Bring good trading animals, be they horses, cows, sheep or pigs, and the profits from a carload will probably defray your expenses and pay you well for your time while enjoying a trip to the great ranching and farming country of Canada.

In order that those who have never seen a prairie and know nothing of its modes may more easily follow my views upon this subject, I shall 'begin at the beginning.' The first requirement is a good run in a good

ranching country. What is a good run for horses? To my idea it is a tract of good grazing land, slightly rolling and with sufficient timber to afford some shelter, add to this some sufficient quantity of meadow (prairie) land, so that a reasonable quantity of hay can be cut, and, above all things, plenty of good water, *without* swampy coulees, and we have, to my mind, a first rate run for horses. Our ranche obtained, what next? To me the first necessity is a good barn or barns, according to the size of the ranche, with plenty of loose boxing for stallions and paddocks for them to run in, also an hospital for weakly or sick horses, and this separate from the general stables. Adjacent to the stables a well arranged strong corral or corrals—great care being taken that there are no projecting points or corners to injure wild young horses; add to this a good, well plastered log farm house and our ranche is ready for occupation. This seems a very extensive start, but most of the work can be done by the rancher himself, and, at any rate to insure success every appliance that could be obtained should be utilized for the comfort and safety of the stock proposed to be raised, and, as far as possible, everything provided out of the capital that will have a tendency to assist in the successful raising and handling of the horses. For instance, I am of opinion that every stock grower ought year by year to cut and lay by a certain quantity of hay to provide against a severe season or it may be an epidemic, when his horses will require careful handling. This hay may not be necessary in the greater number of seasons, but occasionally a severe winter comes, and although horses, least of all require *any* care in this country, yet the loss of two or three valuable animals at times would far out-balance the cost of the necessary provision, and, at any rate, no true lover of the horse would care to see them run down for the want of the hay that our country so liberally produces, and which can be put up at so reasonable a cost. Therefore, I say in providing your capital have an item for the winter's supply of hay, and I say this in the face of the facts that I have known of bands of horses worked in freighters' and surveyors' carts all summer turned out in the autumn footsore, back scalded and thin, and have been found in the spring fat and sound, ready for the summer's work. This is not an isolated case but rather the rule. Still, I stick to my text and think it safe to provide a certain quantity of provender.

SHEEP FARMING.

An industry which promises to be the keynote to Alberta's future prosperity is sheep farming. "A sheep farmer forsooth" in this active



A MANITOBA HERD OF HEREFORDS.

age, when men grow rich in a year; yet the natural advantages which Alberta possesses for sheep farming will soon give her a place second to few, if any, of the wool and mutton growing countries of the world.

Alberta to-day offers what the Australian colonies had to offer thirty years ago,—millions of acres of rich grass lands well watered and adapted in every respect for growing first class mutton and fine wool; on a land blessed with a climate of sufficient heat and sunshine during two-thirds of the year to keep the yolk in active circulation, thereby insuring a fine fibred wool; with mild winters and early springs, where cold rains and dust storms, so injurious to the fleeces, are almost unknown, inducements to which Australia never could aspire. A railway running through the centre of the grazing lands and markets for wool and mutton within easy reach.

There is now on the plateau and undulating prairie lands east and north-east of Calgary, a country capable of supporting ten million sheep, a country of sweet, thick grasses, such as sheep thrive best on—this, too, outside the limits of the larger cattle ranges.

To men who will engage in this industry in Alberta, with a capital of from three to five thousand dollars, and devote themselves with diligence to the care of their flocks, and use the intelligent judgment so much needed in sheep husbandry to secure the animal whose wool and mutton will be of the highest market value, a fortune is assured, and that, too, at the end of a very few years.

The first large band of sheep was imported from Montana in 1884; during the following years numerous other flocks were brought in, and it is estimated that there are now over forty thousand sheep in the district. The losses during winters have been very light, not exceeding two per cent.

As to the breed of sheep most profitable, opinions vary, all breeds pay well when well cared for. For large flocks, merino and merino crosses—merino Leicesters perhaps are the most valuable, both for wool and mutton. Others think the Shropshire and Oxford Downs are a better cross, and still others the Cotswold; be that as it may, give any breed care and they will pay in Alberta.

There is a splendid opening for stud flocks here, and a fortune will reward the individuals or companies who will first engage in that line. It is not necessary for the object of this article to discuss the best mode of handling flocks; enough to say that nature in the bounty of her gifts has granted to Alberta all the essentials to make it one of the great wool

and mutton producing countries of the world. Mr. Cochrane being one of the principal sheep raisers in the district, we here give his views :

COCHRANE RANCHE, ALBERTA, January 30th, 1888.

There are about 7,000 sheep on the range at present. Have sold about \$7,000 worth of sheep from the band during the past year, and about \$6,000 worth of wool. Our owes are grade Morinos, and we are breeding to imported Shropshire rams and find cross very satisfactory for both wool and mutton, and are of opinion that Scotch Cheviots would do better and breed a hardier sheep, which would require little, if any, feed during winter.

Sheep are here divided into bands of about 2,500 each, for the winter, and 1,500 for the summer. Our winter sheds are sheltered from the north and west, and we feed our sheep on hay on the cold mornings in December and January.

With careful management we expect 100 per cent. increase every year. Lambing starts on the first of May. Shearing about the middle of June. Clip should average about six lbs. per head. Loss in large bands should not average over three per cent. per annum if draft lives are sold off every year. The mortality among lambs is wonderfully small, much less than in Scotland. All prevalent diseases among sheep in the old country are not known here. Parasites are also unknown, but we dip the sheep every year as a preventative.

Yours truly,
E. B. COCHRANE.

MIXED FARMING.

While it has been demonstrated beyond question that grain, root and vegetable crops of all kinds can be grown to great advantage in Alberta, yet tillage or crop farming will, for many years to come, be but a secondary consideration to the farmers here, for the simple reason that a more profitable line of farming can be carried on, of a class, too, which is being adopted in the richest farming districts of Eastern Canada and Great Britain, and found to be best paying—mixed farming—and by that is meant growing sufficient crops for home consumption, and relying on the sale of butter, cheese, beef, pork, mutton and wool for income ; and for this class of farming Alberta is second to no country. We have here everything that an intending dairy-farmer could desire : free land, a bountiful supply of the purest spring water, many springs ice cold in summer which yet remain unfrozen during the coldest seasons, rich grasses, bright healthy climate, short winters, plenty of fuel, and markets which practically have no limit, for when the supply more than equals the demand of the local markets, then we have the great centres of the east within easy reach, in which the prime meats of Alberta will find ready sale at highly profitable prices ; and for butter and cheese we have

not only the markets of the east but also those of the west, including Australia. The butter and cheese industry of Alberta promises to assume immense proportions before many years, in that the natural advantages are so much greater than those of the countries growing wealthy on the dairy industry. We learn that the State of Iowa has added *several millions of dollars yearly* to the revenue of the state by the difference in price alone of the article now manufactured by the creameries and the inferior article formerly made; and there is no reason why the Alberta butter trade should not increase in like proportion until the exports become a source of revenue to this country. Truly, Alberta is in sad need of producers when its great inducements have not yet interested capital or awakened industry to produce sufficient of a product for which the country is especially adapted, to supply the local markets. To-day the farmers of Alberta are not manufacturing *fifteen per cent. of the butter needed for home use*. This, too, with an ever increasing demand for a good article at a high price, viz. : 35 cents (1s. 5½d.) per pound. There are two apparent reasons for this non-producing condition. One, the lack of capital by the industrious class, and the other, the lack of willing, intelligent labor.

It is well for the country and its future that we have a class of diligent settlers who are deserving of the name of farmers; they are winning wealth for themselves and prestige for the country of their adoption. From a number of deserving farmers the name of Mr. Sam. Ray may be mentioned as an instance of what persevering industry will accomplish. This sturdy pioneer tells us that he commenced farming in the spring of 1884 with a capital of about \$500 (£100), since then he has acquired an extensive farm, built and furnished a comfortable home and all the necessary outbuildings, has now 80 head of catt'le, besides several horses and a stock of farm implements, in fact, he has grown wealthy in four years, and this, too, with a large young family to support. He informs us that in 1887 he milked 20 cows and sold 2,500 pounds of butter, for which an average price of 35 cents (1s. 5½d.) per pound was obtained; he estimates that the milk of at least two cows was used for family purposes, thus leaving the butter sold the produce of 18 cows, which at the above price reaches the handsome figures of \$48.61 (£9 14s.), as being the amount realized from each cow for the season from butter alone, to which should be added the value of skim milk fed to pigs or calves. This gentleman informed the writer that when he first started dairy farming he was fearful the price of butter would not keep up. He is troubled in that way no longer, as he finds the demand in the home market is increasing each year and that a good article will always command a good price. Mr. Ray has not devoted his time to dairy farming alone;

each year, excepting the last, he has grown splendid crops, including flax, and here, it may be added, that although this crop (flax) has been little grown here, yet wherever experimented with it has grown to perfection, and will prove one of the most profitable productions of the soil in Alberta, for here we have favorable climate and soil superior to any of those countries which are to-day the great flax-producing countries in the world.

The farmers of Alberta are now turning their attention to cheese making, and find that an excellent article can be made at a considerable profit to them. Several cheese factories are now erected, and, judging from the present outlook, the district will become an exporter of cheese to no small extent.

The letters written by practical dairymen and farmers appearing in this pamphlet attest the remarkable results attendant on this class of farming in the Provinces of Alberta and Assiniboia.

The leading features that mark out this section of Canada as the country *par excellence* for the manufacture of cheese and butter are: 1. The rich natural grasses on which the cows can graze the whole year round, doing away with the necessity of artificial feeding. 2nd. The entire absence of highly flavored noxious weeds, the consumption of which taints the product of the dairy. 3rd. The summer temperature cooled by the mountain breezes, and the sparkling springs of cold mountain water with which the country abounds.

Possessing all these natural advantages it cannot be wondered at that those who have embarked in this business have been eminently successful; and that the claims urged for Alberta, that she will be able to outstrip all competitors in the cheap production of the highest grades of dairy products are well founded.

OPINION OF VISITORS FROM ONTARIO.

Recently a number of representative men from Ontario visited Alberta. After an examination of the country in the vicinity of Calgary they gave expression to their views in the following terms:—

Mr. Langford, of Chatnam, stated that he had been very much surprised with the country he had visited, which he was sure was capable of producing crops of every kind in abundance.

Mr. Reed, of Huron County, expressed his satisfaction with the country he had visited and was loud in his praises of it.

Mr. Burke said that all that was wanted in Alberta was a good, handy man to make a living. He had seen better grain in Alberta than he had ever seen in his life before.

Mr. Elmes, of Paris, states that although Alberta's praises had been sounded, that from what he had seen he believed the half had never been told. One place he came to he thought the soil looked thinner than the rest, and he started to dig down, but found $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet of good black loam with a good sub-soil. He had seen the growing grain and the grasses, and he had visited the granaries and found wheat, which he tested, weighing 64 and 65 lbs. to the bushel, oats 48 lbs., and barley 54 lbs. He said he was convinced every 160 acres of this land would support a family comfortably. The great drawback he found among the farmers was that so many of them were bachelors, and yet they were prospering and doing well. He instanced one case where a man had started with nothing about four years ago, and although a bachelor the wretch had accumulated over \$5,000 worth of property.



CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTE

Letters from Actual Settlers.

Showing Progress for the Season of 1890.

ASSINIBOIA.

GRENFELL, ASSINIBOIA, September 18th, 1890.

L. A. HAMILTON, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I have the honor to send you these few lines in order to give you a little information from the part of the country where my new home is. I am glad to be able to tell you that God this year has blessed us with a splendid crop. I like the country very well, because the soil is excellent. All Germans that are here, are well satisfied with the new homes they have found.

Yours truly,

HEINRICH SCHWEITZER.

GRENFELL, ASSINIBOIA, September 19th, 1890.

L. A. HAMILTON, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I am much pleased to write you about my new home. I am well satisfied, and I thank God that he has guided me so well.

I had not much money, only \$240. Now I have a new house worth \$500; I have bought a mower and a sulky rig for \$100 and a self-binder for \$160, further, wagon, plow and harrow for \$120. One pair of horses cost me \$240. My stock is at present 24 head. This year I have cropped 1,000 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of oats, 300 bushels of potatoes and 1,000 bushels of turnips. I have broken 84 acres of land. In three years I have increased my money so that I am now worth 3,000 dollars.

Yours faithfully,

VALENTIN LOWENBERGER.

CRANE LAKE, ASSINIBOIA, May 8th, 1890.

L. A. Hamilton, Esq., Land Commissioner C.P.R.

DEAR SIR,—I have been located on Crane Lake (on the northern slope of Cypress Hills,) as manager of one of the farms belonging to the Canadian Agricultural, Coal and Colonization Co., since they commenced operations here in August, 1888.

We have on this farm about 500 head of cattle, 2,000 sheep and 150 horses.

For stock-raising this is, in my opinion, the best district in the Canadian Northwest. I believe we have a lighter snowfall on northern side of Cypress Hills than in any part of the cattle grazing country. We may not have as much mild weather as further west, but we have fewer changes which is all the better for stock. My observations for the past eight years convinced me of that, and the experience of our company last winter (a severe one) was very convincing proof. At the five farms belonging to this company and situated in Cypress Hills district, Swift Current, Gull Lake, Crane Lake, Kincaid and Danmore, the cattle wintered well out on the open prairie without shelter or other food than the native grass, the loss was practically nothing. (some 10 or 12 head of young stock on each farm.) while horses and young colts increased in flesh and condition.

A person with small capital who could put in a few cows, sheep or horses, and farm a little land, cannot find any part of the country where an easier living can be made, and with a certainty of success.

Dairy farming especially should pay. Grass is abundant and very rich in milk-giving qualities, and there is a market in the west at 20 to 25 cents per pound for all the butter that can be produced. I could write you much more on this subject but think you will find this long enough for your purpose.

I am, yours truly,

W. H. CROSS.

FORBES, ASSA., May 10, 1890.

L. A. Hamilton, Esq., Winnipeg.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your enquiry requesting my opinion as to the advantage of this district as a cattle raising district, I would say that I consider the Cypress Hills to be one of the best cattle ranges in the country, especially the range between Swift Current and Medicine Hat. My experience has been mostly in the part lying between Maple Creek and Forbes, and I consider this to be the best part of the range, being situated in the Chinook belt, and sheltered by the Cypress Hills, together with the large number of coulees and ravines, which afford splendid grazing ground and shelter, and the large number of creeks and lakes that are in the district, and the rich grazing lands, all tend toward the advantages possessed by this district as a cattle range.

The past winter has been a good test as to the relative merits of the different sections of the Territories devoted to cattle raising. I think I can say without contradiction that this district is far ahead of all. There was hardly a month during the winter but what beef cattle were shipped both east and west from Maple Creek, and these were gathered out of the cattle running on the prairie. The loss of cattle during the winter was so small that it is hardly noticeable; and no loss occurred from the severity of the winter. What loss there was was mostly negligence on the part of the owners in allowing a few weak cattle to run at large which

should have been taken up and fed. This district is also suitable for horse raising as the many large bands will show, and after running at large all winter they come out in the spring fat and in fine condition. I would advise anyone coming to this country to start raising horses and cattle, and to settle somewhere in this district, for as I said before I firmly believe we have the best range in the country.

Yours truly,

G. E. NUGENT.

GRENFELL, JOSEPHSBURG, ASSINIBOIA,
September 20th, 1890.

L. A. HAMILTON, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I have resided with my family near Grenfell for two years and take much pleasure in giving you some information about my present state.

We arrived in Canada November 24th, 1887, without means, and consequently unable to take up land at once, while my two oldest children went out to work, I and three younger children remained in Winnipeg for nine months at an average cost of \$8 per week. On the 8th of September, 1888, I went to Josephsburg, the German colony near Grenfell, where I took up two quarter sections for me and my son, who now is farming for himself.

I have broken 70 acres, from which I got this year a bountiful crop—God having blessed us with good weather—I have also worked faithfully and hard. My stock is now 22 head; 4 horses and 18 cattle. I have further, wagon, 2 plows, harrow, mower and all necessary things for the household.

I have built a new house, worth \$100 and can affirm you that I am perfectly satisfied with my new home. The soil is very good. I am 52 years of age and have grown much wheat but none so good as that of this year, vegetables are also fine.

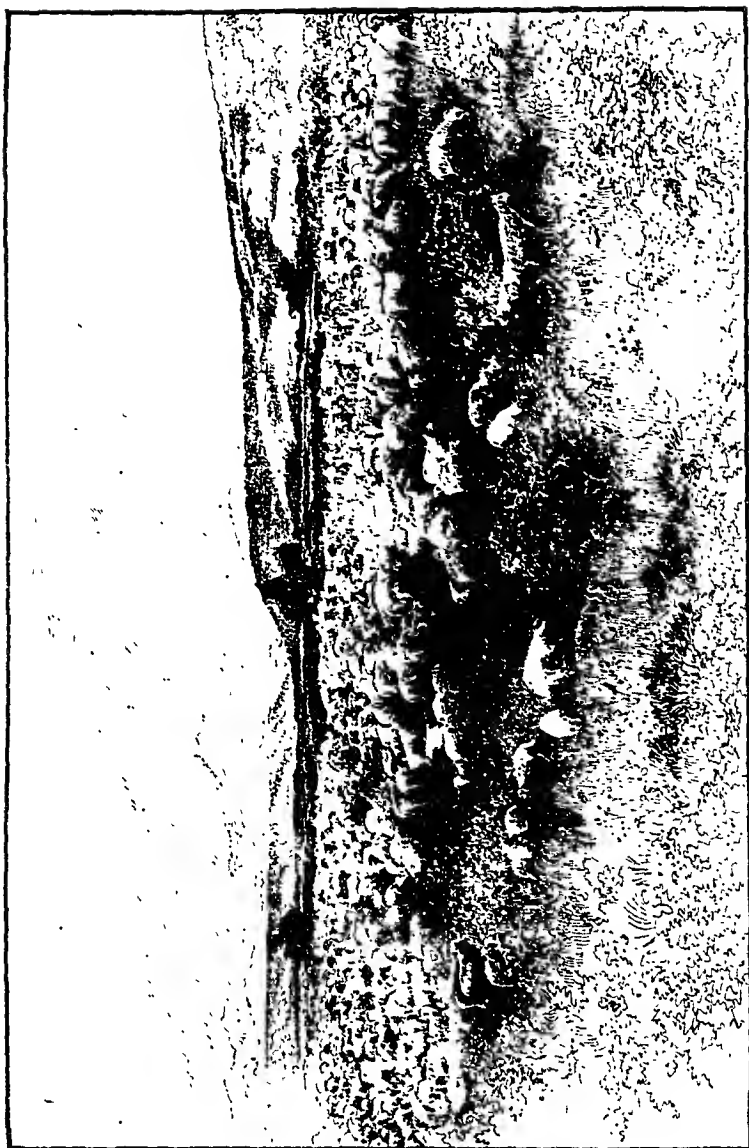
Should one of our Austrian farmers ask can such or such be grown in America or rather in the Northwest, my answer is the following: I have in my garden, peas, beans, different small herbs, flax, rape, kale, corn, poppy, saffron, spinach, watermelons, hops, onions, sunflowers and plenty of nice and fragrant garden flowers, etc. In the wood we had a magnificent supply of wild tasteful fruits, that mostly came in to good use. Saskatoon berries, eyriots (wild cherries), raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, hazel nuts, etc. I have laid up 125 tons of hay, digged a well 8 feet, which gives plenty of water.

I only have to wish that all farmers might be as satisfied as I am.

Believe me, Sir,

Yours very truly,

ADAM NIERBERGAM.



AN ASSINIBOIA SHEEP RANCHE.

RED DEER, ASSINIBOIA.

SIR,—In response to enquiries regarding Northern Alberta, let me say that I have been in this section of it for six years, long enough to have formed a judgment as to its character and capabilities, therefore feel that I have a right to speak with some assurance. This section of country differs from the prairies in that it is a well wooded and well watered country; it answers the description of a park-like country, having sufficient timber for all necessary purposes. There are magnificent water-courses, mountain streams, creeks and rivers. I have never known a solitary instance where men had to dig more than fifteen to thirty feet to have at hand a well of the purest and best water. I speak favorably of Northern Alberta because we can raise cattle at one-third the cost that they can be produced in any of the eastern provinces. It does not take any very great skill to raise cattle which at thirty months old will dress, without having been fed on an ounce of grain, six hundred and fifty and seven hundred pounds of beef, or a three-year-old that will dress eight hundred and eight hundred and fifty pounds. It does not take a very great deal of skill to farm in this district with good results. Even a novice like myself in average years can grow crops of grain—oats from 50 to 75 bushels to the acre, weighing 46 to 50 pounds to the bushel; barley from 45 to 55 bushels to the acre, weighing from 54 to 57 pounds to the bushel; wheat from 35 to 40 bushels to the acre, weighing from 62 to 68 pounds to the bushel; black barley 35 to 40 bushels to the acre, weighing 60 to 68 pounds to the bushel. We have grown 400 bushels of potatoes and 700 bushels of turnips to the acre. I may say I have seen greater things than these, but I am not taking what is phenomenal, but simply what a man with application can realize in five years out of six in Northern Alberta. But I may say here I have known yields of 83 bushels to the acre of Welcome oats, and I have seen 90 bushels grown at the Red Deer.

I have seen wheat and oat straw grow to the height of six feet, and yet well headed and filled with plump grain. There are millions of acres of deep soils in the various parts of the Red Deer country that are now entirely unoccupied, saying nothing of the fertile valley of the Battle river, Saskatchewan, Edmonton and Sturgeon river districts, stretching north for 130 miles, a country of wonderful possibilities.

I have examined closely into this matter, and I do not know a country either north or south of the 49th parallel, where I would rather take my chance in the industry of mixed farming than I would in Northern Alberta.

Yours truly,

LEO GAETZ.

COTHAM, ASSINIBOIA, Nov., 1890.

Cotham is about sixteen miles due north of Broadview, and is pleasantly situated on the northern slope of the Qu'Appelle River, midway between Crooked Lake and Round Lake. The site and its surrounding scenery are remarkably picturesque, no more beautiful locality being found on this side of the Rockies. The two lakes abound with pike, pickerel and white fish, and during the spawning season the river that runs from the one to the other literally swarms with the fish mentioned.

Most of the settlers here are direct from England. Many of them came with impaired health, the result of sedentary employment, but these are now as strong and stalwart as one would wish to see. Indeed the climate here is pre-eminently conducive to health.

The land is rolling prairie, interspersed with bluffs that extend for three miles from the river's bank. The valley is about one-and-a-half miles wide, from 300 ft. to 400 ft. deep, and has a tract of level bottom along which the river winds in graceful curves.

In 1890, a stone school-house was built, and the education of the children therein is a satisfaction and delight to those settlers who have families. The building (in which is an organ) is also used as a public hall and a church.

The soil is a rich loam, neither too heavy nor too light, not blowing away with the winds nor being baked by the sun. The country is best adapted for mixed farming, the distance from Broadview and the transport difficulties across the valley proving obstacles to exclusive wheat production.

In 1890, the crops within two miles from Cotham, viz.: on the Indian Reserve, were the best in the Territories, and were awarded the first prizes at the Regina Exhibition. The garden produce of the district is always good; while the ravines (or *coulees* as they are called) that lead from the valley to the plains are the natural home of wild fruits and nuts, the most abundant being saskatoons, cranberries, red and black cherries, currants and raspberries. The wild pen-vine and vetches also grow in profusion among the small scrub bushes.

Cattle do remarkably well on the summer pasturage, which about here is generally luxuriant, while the river and springs in the ravines afford a water supply at all times. In the valley some of the cattle are not housed even in winter, while both in the valley and on the plains native horses get their own living all the year round. Hay is sometimes difficult to obtain, and this limits the quantity of stock that can be reared. There are no marshes in the neighborhood, and the wild hay has to be taken from hollows which in wet seasons are filled with water, locally known as "sloughs."

The class of settlers that this locality will best suit, are those possessed of a small assured income, who have a love for the freedom of prairie life without too much anxiety for the result of the harvest. Most of the settlers located here are of this class, and it is but natural that birds of a feather should flock together.

Cotham, then, is specially adapted for mixed farming, including horse breeding. The locality has many advantages, and some disadvantages. The settlers are proud of their settlement and their cry is, to borrow an old Latin motto, "Let Cotham flourish."

EDWARD KENDRICK.	CHAS. R. BOULTBEE.
WM. TRANT.	H. H. WILLWAY.
ERNEST JNO. BISSICKS.	W. F. TRANT.
A. E. WILLWAY.	WILLIAM HODSON.
G. S. PALMER.	NAPOLÉON RAINVILLE.
GODFREY RAINVILLE.	ORMIDOR RAINVILLE.

ALBERTA.

FISH CREEK, ALBERTA, August 28th, 1890.

I have been five years in Alberta. This year I have forty-five acres under cultivation and I have a magnificent crop of wheat, oats and barley. I have every confidence in the future of the Calgary district as a farming country and especially as a wheat and barley growing country.

Those seeking a new home need not be afraid of coming to Alberta. I believe it to be the best country on the continent.

EDWARD NELSON.

EAST OF HIGH RIVER, ALBERTA, August 30th, 1890.

I came here in 1887 with my family, having travelled over a great part of the Western States in search of a suitable place to build a home and improve with the country. I took up 320 acres of Government land the same year, and have been engaged in mixed farming and dairying with very good results. I have at the present time 54 acres under crop of wheat, oats, barley, rye, flax, potatoes and other roots. I can only say further that I am well pleased with my location, and am sure I could not have done nearly as well in any other country I know of with the same capital I had on coming here.

W. B. THORNE.

CALGARY, August 21st, 1890.

I have much pleasure and feel in duty bound to bear testimony to the great advantages offered to settlers, both by the Government and the C. P. R. Company, in this portion of the District of Alberta, as well as the advantage it possesses of soil and climate for the raising of cereals—wheat, oats and barley—as well as stock.

I have two sons along with myself who have been engaged now seven years in the above occupations here, and so well pleased are they that although young men they have no desire to look for any better place to cast their lot. Our oats last year weighed 46 lbs. to the bushel, barley 53 lbs. and wheat 62 lbs. Stock did equally well.

C. SPARROW.

FISH CREEK, CALGARY DISTRICT, August 29th, 1890.

I have been 9 years in the Calgary District and have farmed since my arrival. This year I have 120 acres under cultivation including wheat, oats, barley and roots. I have this and every other year succeeded in growing first-class crops. Wheat has averaged from 25 to 53 bus. per acre. Barley averaged 40 bus. per acre. Oats last year yielded 65 bus. per acre weighing 42 lbs. per bus., and my present crop is the best I



1903 Feb 10

FARM AT AGASSIZ, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

have had. My root crops have been enormous each year. I have farmed in California, Arizona and the Western States, and am now fully satisfied that for mixed farming and stock raising the Calgary District has no equal. We have right here good soil, timber, water, coal and stone, and I see no reason why a man should not prosper if he is at all willing.

NELSON BERO.

NEAR CALGARY, ALBERTA, August 26th, 1890.

I came to Alberta in 1862, and commenced farming on a small scale in 1864. I have raised good crops every year since, with one exception, about the year 1868, when failure was caused by drought. I never had a lighter crop of oats than 40 bushels per acre, of wheat 36 bushels per acre, and barley not under 45 bushels per acre.

I have had crops which I threshed Spanish fashion, *i. e.* tramped it out with horses, and got 86 bushels of oats per acre. Off one acre I took 87 bushels of clean wheat, and 21 bushels in which some oats got mixed.

If I were to tell you of the root crops I have grown, and seen grown by others in Alberta, the yield would be accounted an exaggeration on my part. After travelling over the whole of America I settled here, and each year makes me more satisfied that Alberta is destined to become a great agricultural country, and I am positive that mineral discoveries will soon be made in Calgary district that will surprise the world.

SAM. H. LIVINGSTON.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, August 29th, 1890.

With regard to the state of the crops on our farms in the Calgary District, I am pleased to say that they are satisfactory in every way.

On our farm at Namaka we have 1,300 acres under crop, consisting of 350 acres of wheat, 380 of barley, 480 of oats, 70 of flax and 20 of potatoes and roots. We have a particularly fine crop of wheat on this farm, considerably over twenty bushels to the acre. The other crops are equally satisfactory.

On our Langdon farm we have 685 acres in crop, all oats. I estimate the yield to average thirty-five bushels to the acre. The earliest sown oats are a particularly heavy crop.

I consider the soil round the Calgary District in every way suitable for arable cultivation.

THOMAS STONE,

General Manager.

The Canadian Agricultural Coal and Colonization Company, Limited.

CALGARY, August 29th, 1890.

I have lived in the Calgary district for the past six years, and have been engaged in farming, more or less, since my arrival. From my experience I believe that this is one of the best farming portions of this continent. I have had crops of oats, wheat, barley and roots, and have not yet had a failure. I fully believe that if the great advantages and

inducements that this country possesses and offers were only half known in the Old Country, the Calgary district would be thickly settled in a very short time. What with our great extent of fertile country, our timber lands, coal lands and vast mineral resources, Alberta is bound to be one of the richest Provinces of the Dominion. There is no longer any doubt but that this is the garden of the great Northwest as a grain growing, dairy farming and stock raising district. The old cry of summer frosts and droughts is now played out. Practical farmers have proved that this is equal at least to any other British colony. My former home was in Loch Gilthead, Argyleshire, Scotland.

JOHN G. McCALLUM.

SHEEP CREEK, OKOTOKS P. O., August 29th, 1890.

I came to Alberta in the spring of 1883, and brought my family out in 1884, from Wellington Co., Ontario, where I was for many years engaged in farming. Having examined the land in this district, I finally settled on my present homestead, and have had no cause to regret having done so, as I have raised paying crops each year, without a single failure.

I have under crop this season 90 acres, consisting of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and other roots; I have also summer fallowed 35 acres, which I find the most profitable way to work land.

I have now 27 head of cattle and 8 horses, as well as machinery for working my farm and a comfortable home for myself and family.

After paying for bringing my family out, \$140 was my whole capital, so I think I have done well, and much better than I could have done in the East.

I think this is a first-rate country for mixed farming and dairying, and would advise any man in search of a home and willing to work to come to Alberta, where I feel sure he can succeed as well as I have.

THOMAS ROWLES, SR.

PINE CREEK, August 29th, 1890.

In reply to your request, I am able to state that the crops in Pine Creek district this year are equal to any I have seen in the Northwest, and that is saying a good deal. Wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, roots, etc., are extra good crops. Oats are generally estimated to yield on an average in our district from 50 to 75 bushels per acre. Oats, too, that will weigh from 40 to 49 lbs. per bushel.

I have lived in the Calgary district for the past seven years, and each year convinces me more and more that this district is equal to any in Canada or the United States as an agricultural and dairy farming country.

Our old friends in the East need not think that we are in a wild forlorn land. The days of the wild and woolly are past. We have now schools, churches, markets, and all the advantages that a common sense man may need—indeed many advantages that Old Canada has not or does not expect. The uninhabited country of a few years ago is fast

becoming a thickly populated and highly prosperous one, and I have no hesitation in saying that I recommend all those who are seeking a new home to enquire into the advantages of Alberta, little doubting but that they settle in one of the fertile valleys of the Calgary district.

SAM RAY.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, August 27th, 1890.

I came to Alberta with a band of horses in 1882 and again in 1883, and was so favorably impressed with it that I concluded to make my home here and returned with that intention in 1886. Since then I have resided at Calgary, and in connection with my business as stock dealer, am continually in the saddle and have constant opportunities of seeing the country during all seasons. And I must say that the more I see of it the more am I impressed with the great future it must have as a cattle, agricultural and mineral country. As to my experience I may say that I have not confined myself to stock alone as I have farmed more or less each year. This year I have under crop some 225 acres, principally oats, but have also wheat, barley, potatoes and roots, and I am pleased to be able to state that my crops are a splendid lot. I have oats that stand 5 ft. 10 in., and will yield on an average from 45 bus. to 55 bus. per acre, and much of the crop will, I believe, thresh over 65 bus. per acre.

My brother and myself have 1,500 to 2,000 head of cattle, principally three and four year old steers, a choice herd. I find cattle do remarkably well here. We have about 150 head of horses, and as a horse country I believe Alberta has no equal. We have also from 1,000 to 2,000 sheep near Calgary, and they do very well. In fact taken all round I know of no other country which can equal the Calgary District as a grain growing, dairy farming and stock country.

W. R. HULL.

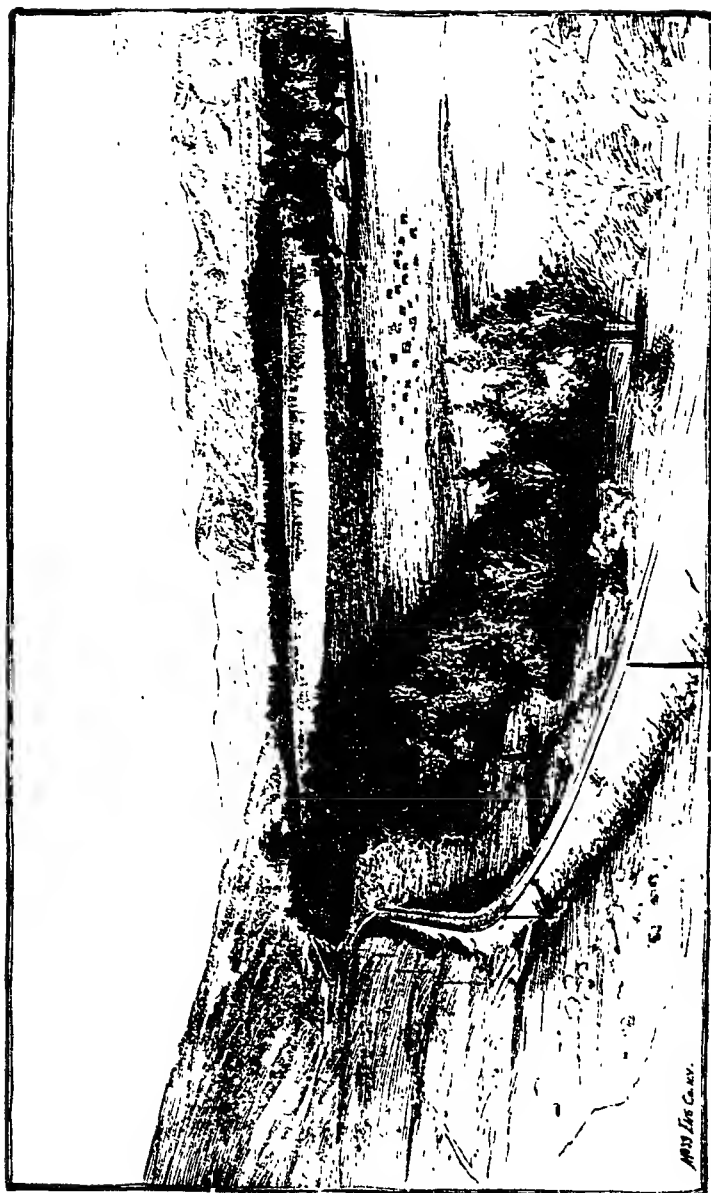
GRIERSON P.O., CALGARY DISTRICT, ALBERTA,

August 23rd, 1890.

I came to Alberta in the June excursion of 1889, and having examined the country thoroughly and being fully converted to its adaptability for grain and root growing by the crops I saw, I concluded to sell out my farm in the east and make my home in Alberta. I purchased from the C.P.R. 960 acres of land, and have never had cause to regret having done so, the land all around me having gone up in price from \$1 to \$3 per acre during the past year.

I put up last year about 100 tons of hay, and also brought my family out to Alberta. This spring I cleared \$600 out of my hay alone, which was quite a good start. I have three acres of wheat on sod breaking, and I can tell you it is a grand crop. I also put in 30 acres of crop on a neighbor's farm, and have good crops of oats, barley and potatoes.

I heard a lot about summer frosts and such like before I came here, but can say that in my neighborhood there has been none, and I consider this as good a farming country as Ontario and the best country in the



CATTLE RANCH ON THE SOUTH THOMPSON RIVER, NEAR KAMLOOPS, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

world for stock and dairy farming. My former home was in Leeds County, Ontario, and I must say I am glad I came West. My family enjoy the best of health and are in love with the country.

Every one has his choice, but Alberta is good enough for me. I can't see why a man with even small capital should not get on well here, if he is practical and willing to work. If you are anxious to succeed, come to Alberta where prices for farm produce are good.

E. BURKE.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, 26th August, 1890.

To J. G. Fitzgerald, C.P.R. Land Agent, Calgary:

We, the undersigned, members of the Ontario Farmers' Union, delegation from Waterloo County, having visited Calgary and the surrounding country, wish to manifest hereby our satisfaction with the appearance of the country as well as the crops, and desire to express our opinion that as far as our judgment can determine from what we have seen, this country would be a desirable place for our Ontario people to emigrate to, providing they wish to make their homes on prairie land or on good grazing land. We found this country rolling and undulating, very much like the finest of our Ontario land; the crops which are now being harvested are on the whole very fine indeed, not so long in the straw but exceedingly well headed, and the quality of the grain first class.

The situation is such that lumber is as cheap as in Ontario, as also are fence posts (cedar). Coal mines are close to hand, making fuel cheap.

In short, we are all favorably impressed with this country.

We also wish to manifest our appreciation of the great courtesy of the officials of the C.P.R., of the Government Homestead Inspector, and also the municipal authorities of the Town of Calgary. We offer to each our sincere thanks for their kindness to this our delegation.

JOHN F. MCKAY.	MENNO BRICKER.
ALEX. PETERSON.	HENRY BRUBACHER.
JAMES TAYLOR.	JOS. BINGEMAN.
MATTHEW DURANT.	LEVI STAUFFER.
HENRY HAMILTON.	ISAAC GROH.
W. I. MOOBY.	SAMUEL MOYER.
PETER W. GLENNIE.	JOHN SHUH.
ALEX. A. GLENNIE.	JOSIAH SHANTZ.
SOLOMON ERB.	ELI CLEMENS.
JACOB E. CLEMENS.	E. ZEIGLER.

Agricultural Society of Waterloo.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, 24th June, 1890.

To His Worship the Mayor and Council of the Town of Calgary.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned, Excursionists to Alberta, having availed ourselves of your kindness in providing us with carriages for a drive to Pine Creek, take this opportunity of offering you our hearty thanks.

The outing was exceedingly pleasant and one which will tend to increase the value of this favored portion of the Dominion in our estimation. We have golden opinions of Calgary and its promising future, and will not fail to so apprise our relatives, both in Ontario and England.

We are surprised to observe the wonderful progress your town has made during a period of four or five years a circumstance doubtless due to your own untiring efforts, coupled with the benign influence of the C.P.R.

Wishing you all success in the building of your new railroad, which will further add to your many advantages, and again sincerely thanking you,

Believe us, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully and obliged,

DR. W. M. IRELAND, Trenton, Ont.

A. H. SKIRVING, Chatham, Ont.

FRANCIS SEWELL, Suffolk, England

JAMES BURNIE, Ont.

JOHN McRAE, Ont.

R. H. MOORE, Parry Sound District, Ont.

JOHN FELL, Perth County, Ont.

GEO. McMORRIGUE, Stormont County, Ont.

THOMAS FLETCHER, Port Hope, Ont.

HENRY CLAYTON, Port Hope, Ont.

P.S.—We are very favorably impressed with the crops we saw, all of which are looking extremely good. The further west we came the better the crops appeared to be, and around Calgary they certainly came up to our most sanguine expectations.

A. H. SKIRVING, for party.

MANITOBA.

CARBERRY, MANITOBA, August 20th, 1890.

SIR,—I farmed in Ontario for twenty-six years previous to 1881, and got hold of a good farm worth \$36 per acre. I began to find out that I could not make interest on the money invested, and was convinced that a larger farm in Manitoba would offer a better chance.

I sold my farm in Ontario and came to Manitoba in the spring of 1881, and bought a farm near the main line of the C. P. R., a short distance from where the rising and prosperous town of Carberry now stands. I went to work with a will, and have had good crops every year, with the exception of two seasons, when they were not up to average. Now that I am nine years in Manitoba I can say that my accumulations are ten fold.

With industry and a little economy, there is nothing to stay the tide of wealth and comfort in Manitoba. I have been through a great part of the Eastern States and Canada, and this season took a trip to the Pacific Coast and thence to California and Southern States, visiting in all eleven States. My opinion now is that taking everything into consideration, Manitoba stands at the head, and is destined to be the richest province in Canada.

JOHN STINSON.

GLENBORO, MANITOBA.

L. A. HAMILTON, Esq.

SIR,—In reply to your enquiry of the 26th instant I beg leave to inform you that I homesteaded the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 30, Tp. 6, R. 14 west of 1st meridian in May 1882. Resources at commencement were \$600. I have lived upon the land ever since, and have now 320 acres of first-class land all fenced in, 160 under wheat. The buildings on my land consist of a good frame house, two granaries and stable for 20 head of cattle or horses. For this land and buildings I would not at the present time take less than \$6,000 cash. I own all necessary farm machinery and implements to the value of nearly \$1,000. My live stock consists of three working horses, two colts, one team of oxen, two cows, two heifers and two calves, besides a few pigs and hens, etc.—live stock value, \$1,500. This makes my present worth about \$8,500 from which deduct resource at beginning (\$600), leaving the very handsome balance of \$7,900 as the result of seven years labor less present total debts, amounting to \$700 which I hope to be able to pay off before the end of next year.

I have been fairly successful as the above statement shews and last year I sold No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat at Glenboro for \$900 cash.

Altogether I am well satisfied with this part of the country, and my present position and prospects and believe this to be a good place for any man of industrious and sober habits and some knowledge of agriculture.

There is a goodly number of my countrymen in this settlement whose present position is fully equal to my own. I know of some who came out to this place four and five years ago whose present worth will show a net gain of \$1,000 per year since their settlement here.

Yours respectfully.

JONAS JONSON,

Glenboro P. O., Manitoba.

BERESFORD, MANITOBA, 3rd November, 1890.

SIR,—I came to Manitoba in June 1831 from Brussels, Ontario, where I had been for some time engaged as a merchant. Having taken a car of horses in payment of accounts due, I brought them up for the purpose of selling to better advantage than I could in the east, which I did. I took a great fancy to the country, went back and settled up my affairs and returned to Manitoba in December.

I purchased six sections of land from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and would have bought more but they declined to sell, not feeling satisfied that I could cultivate them. In February 1882, I also took up a homestead, the E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32, 8 20 west, adjoining my C. P. R. land. I broke up 160 acres in 1882 and 640 acres the following year, and continued to break from year to year and have brought under cultivation myself over 2,000 acres of land. I have as a rule had excellent crops. In 1884 and 1885 my grain was somewhat damaged by frost, but as I had gone extensively into cattle raising, it proved no great loss, as I fed the damaged grain to my stock and realized a handsome price for my beef.

My 1887 crop was probably the heaviest I have had, but I made more money out of that of 1888 for I had a good return, about 25 bushels of wheat to the acre and I sold it at \$1.05 per bushel. I expect to have this year nearly as good a yield as in 1887 and a much larger quantity of grain, as I had a greater area under crop. My wheat is of excellent quality as is all the wheat in this neighborhood. I have employed men from time to time in Ontario to work on my farms here, and after they have been engaged for a time on wages, I have sold a number of them small farms, and have given others land on shares; and they are all without exception prospering and are pleased that they came to Manitoba as they have bettered their circumstances very much.

I have now about 100 head of pure bred Short Horn and Hereford cattle, ranging in value from \$100 to \$300 each, 52 head of horses including 14 pure bred Clydesdales, a number of them imported from Scotland. The Clydesdales are worth from \$600 to \$2,000 each. I invested in my operations in this country about \$20,000, and could not to-day take \$100,000 for my lands, stock and farming effects, the direct result of my farming business in Manitoba. I attribute my success to mixed farming and making use of everything I raise. I never burn my straw, as many farmers do, but feed it to my cattle and draw all the manure each year upon my summer fallow. It would not pay me to sell my straw this year for \$1,000.

I am satisfied that I have done better here than I could have done in any other country

Yours truly,

JOHN E. SMITH.

NOTE.—This pamphlet is one of the most useful series published by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The series comprise the following pamphlets:—"Dairy Farming and Ranching," "A Scotch Farmer's Success," "100 Farmers Testify," "The Manitoba Land Folder," "British Columbia," etc., also publications of a similar nature printed in French and German.

These contain much valuable information, are handsomely illustrated, and have been carefully revised and corrected up to the close of 1890. No effort has been spared to make them as complete and reliable as possible, and every intending colonist should have them. Copies of one, or all, of these pamphlets will be mailed free to any address, upon application to any agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway.



